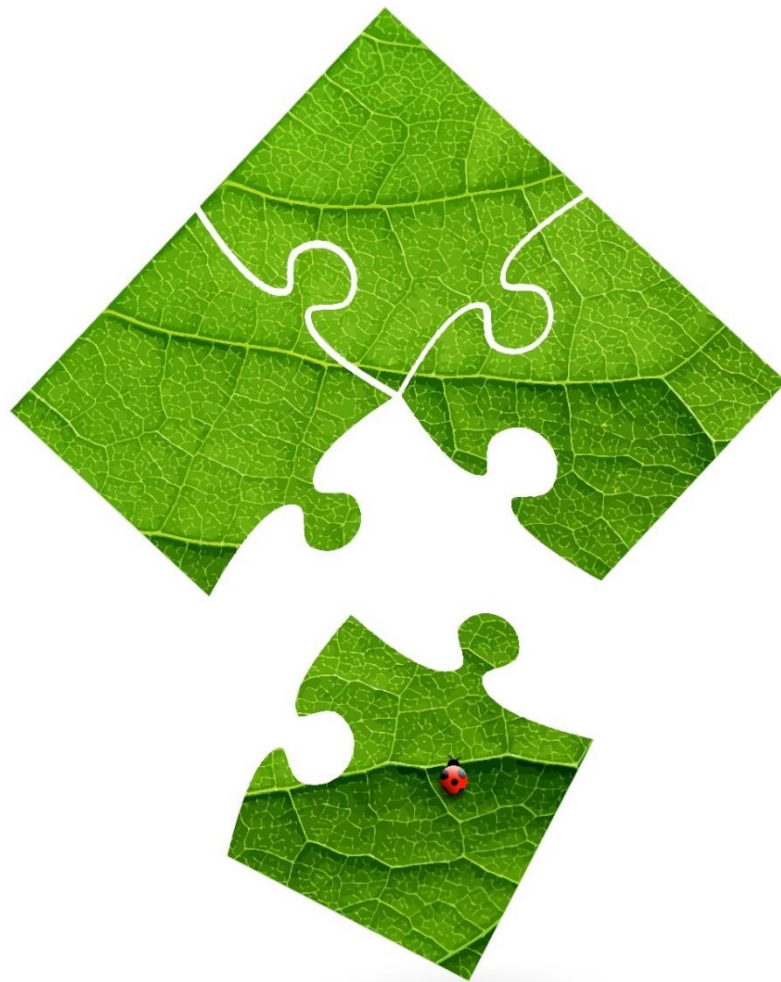


# Mapping Multilateral Environmental Agreements to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets

Final report – October 2015



UNEP



WCMC

# Mapping Multilateral Environmental Agreements to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets

Prepared for and funded by  
Ministry of Environment, Finland

Prepared October 2015

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Citation  
UNEP-WCMC. 2015. Mapping Multilateral Environmental Agreements to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. UNEP-WCMC, Cambridge.

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## List of acronyms

BIP	Biodiversity Indicators Partnership
CEPA	Communication, Education and Public Awareness
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CHM	Clearing House Mechanism
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
CMS	Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals
COP	Conference of the Parties
EBSA	Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMG	United Nations Environment Management Group
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GEF	Global Environment Facility
IAS	Invasive alien species
ICCA	Indigenous and community conserved areas
ILC	Indigenous and local communities
IPBES	Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
IPPC	International Plant Protection Convention
ITPGRFA	International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
ITTO	International Tropical Timber Organization
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreement
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NFP	National Focal Point
OUV	Outstanding Universal Value
PGRFA	Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
PoW	Programme of Work

PoWPA	CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas
SEA	Strategic Environment Assessment
SOC	State of Conservation Information System
UN	United Nations
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNEP- WCMC	UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNWTO	United Nations World Tourism Organization
WHC	Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization

## Executive summary

The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 with its 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets, is widely acknowledged as the universal framework for action on biodiversity, and a foundation for sustainable development.

Since its adoption, the governing bodies of the biodiversity-related conventions<sup>1</sup> have adopted more than 1,200 substantive decisions or resolutions. Many of these provide valuable guidance for parties and other governments for achieving various aspects of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, but there is no single, coherent, up-to-date compilation of all of the guidance provided by these decisions and related programmes, plans and support tools.

Global Biodiversity Outlook 4 concluded that achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets requires a coherent and coordinated approach. A clearer identification of how each of the conventions' articles, decisions and activities relates to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets could be a valuable means to respond to this recommendation, with the additional benefit of identifying any potential gaps in the guidance provided.

The Ministry of Environment, Finland, commissioned the United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) to begin the process of mapping available guidance against the Aichi Biodiversity Targets to inform discussions aiming to identify opportunities for alignment, cooperation and collaboration among the various conventions, including where consolidated guidance would be useful. A selection of the opportunities identified are summarised below.

Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) are expected to develop and implement **National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs)** that address the Aichi Biodiversity Targets in the context of national priorities and capacities, and take into account synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions. This mapping exercise notes decisions across the conventions encouraging cooperation on NBSAP revision and implementation.

Most conventions are already working towards strengthened **monitoring** systems and programmes, supporting the purposes of national **reporting**. CBD COP 12 Decision XII/29<sup>2</sup> requested exploring 'the potential for a more coherent reporting framework with other biodiversity-related conventions to improve access to relevant data for the implementation of the Convention and to reduce the reporting burden on Parties'. By identifying decisions across conventions that provide guidance on reporting related to each of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets the project results could inform such work by identifying possible shared modules of reporting.

Regarding **awareness raising** so that information related to biodiversity can be more effectively used in the implementation of the conventions, the mapping exercise identified a number of areas for considering coherent outreach, including: engaging agriculture, energy and forestry

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<sup>1</sup> The scope of this work was so that the following conventions were included in the analysis: Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA), Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention), World Heritage Convention (WHC). We acknowledge that there are now seven members of the Biodiversity Liaison Group and therefore the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) should be considered in similar analyses conducted in the future.

<sup>2</sup> CBD COP 12 Decision XII/29, available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-12/cop-12-dec-29-en.pdf> [Accessed: 9 September 2015].

sectors, sustainable use of wildlife and combatting wildlife crime, sustainable tourism, and control of invasive alien species.

When considering capacity development requests from parties, convention secretariats and those supporting them could enhance collaboration in the short-term by considering whether the activity could be designed to benefit implementation of more than one convention. Results from this mapping exercise have identified themes where **capacity building** activities could be designed to address the needs and interests of more than one convention. These themes include: enabling environments for business engagement, sustainable tourism, creation of incentives for biodiversity conservation as well as the elimination of harmful policies, and supporting operationalisation of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilisation to the CBD.

Overall, the results of this mapping exercise could support those involved in NBSAP development, revision and implementation by helping them to identify opportunities for addressing each Aichi Biodiversity Target in a manner that enables the objectives of the biodiversity-related conventions to be addressed coherently. Further action is needed to support this use, including: the preparation of summaries for specific user groups of the information provided; making the information available online, searchable and updatable; and increasing the scope of the exercise to make it more comprehensive (e.g. including the International Plant Protection Convention and additional multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) including regional agreements). Furthermore, the results could serve as input to the implementation of CBD COP 12 Decision XII/6<sup>3</sup> on cooperation with other conventions which established a party-driven process to enhance synergies and improve efficiency among the biodiversity-related conventions.

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<sup>3</sup> CBD COP 12 Decision XII/6, available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-12/cop-12-dec-06-en.pdf> [Accessed: 9 September 2015].



# 1 Introduction

The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets, adopted at the tenth Conference of the Parties (COP) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), is widely acknowledged as a flexible universal framework for action on biodiversity, and related contributions to sustainable development. The governing bodies of the biodiversity-related conventions have recognised and supported the Strategic Plan as a framework with which they might align their own strategic plans and work activities. They have also encouraged their national focal points and authorities (hereafter collectively referred to as NFPs) to engage in the development and implementation of their country's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP).

In 2011/2012, members of the United Nations (UN) Environment Management Group (EMG), including the biodiversity-related conventions, mapped their strategic goals and objectives against the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Early input to this mapping effort was provided by an International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) report for the Chairs of the Scientific Advisory Bodies of the biodiversity-related conventions. Thereafter this mapping effort was supplemented by conventions' own Strategic Plan-Aichi Biodiversity Target mapping exercises. Moreover, information on implementation of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets by UN bodies, convention secretariats and others is being gathered and maintained by the CBD Secretariat. Further updates to this information could be undertaken by the Aichi Biodiversity Targets Task Force<sup>4</sup>, which comprises a number of key organisational contributors to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, including other biodiversity-related conventions.

However, despite this work, there is currently no coherent, up-to-date compilation of the existing guidance for parties and other governments (hereafter collectively referred to as countries) provided by the various conventions (through decisions or resolutions of the governing bodies of the biodiversity-related conventions) on how to implement actions that contribute towards the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, recognising that such a review might also indicate where further guidance for countries might be valuable.

Under the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) project 'Improving the effectiveness of and cooperation among biodiversity-related conventions and exploring opportunities for further synergies', a survey was circulated to NFPs on 'improving coordination and cooperation in the implementation of biodiversity-related conventions at national and regional levels'. This survey was developed to collect information on current levels of cooperation among the biodiversity-related conventions at national and regional levels (especially among NFPs). A key message from this survey was that the NBSAP revision process has been very significant in bringing together NFPs of the various biodiversity-related conventions. Nevertheless those who responded to the questionnaire, or who

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<sup>4</sup> The Aichi Biodiversity Targets Task Force was established as part of a Memorandum of Cooperation on the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the achievement of the 2020 Aichi Biodiversity Targets, between the CBD and 27 international agencies, organisations and convention secretariats. The Aichi Biodiversity Targets Task Force is to promote information exchange and, where appropriate, to coordinate the activities of the respective institutions to achieve the 2020 Aichi Biodiversity Targets. By the agreed modalities of cooperation, the Task Force will build upon and complement the work being carried out by the Environment Management Group of the UN through its Issue Management Group on biodiversity and by the Biodiversity Liaison Group on issues related to the implementation of the 2020 Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Members of the task force are: CBD; IUCN; UNDP; UNEP; UNCTAD; the United Nations Human Settlements Programme; Bioversity International; FAO; UNESCO; the International Civil Aviation Organization; ITTO; UNWTO; the United Nations Institute for Training and Research; GEF; International Fund for Agricultural Development; CITES; CMS; ITGRFA; Ramsar Convention; Alliance for Zero Extinction; BirdLife International; Conservation International; Rare; The Nature Conservancy; the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums; WWF International; and the Wildlife Conservation Society.

engaged in the subsequent workshops<sup>5</sup>, also indicated that it is, at times, unclear how global level initiatives to enhance harmonisation and collaboration among the conventions can be put into practice at the national level. Furthermore, the challenges to coherent implementation of the biodiversity-related conventions as indicated by questionnaire respondents are lack of human, technical and financial capacity at the national level. In addition, Global Biodiversity Outlook 4<sup>6</sup> concluded that achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets requires a coherent and coordinated approach. A clearer identification of how each of the conventions' articles, decisions and activities relates to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets could be a valuable means to respond to this recommendation, and to support those with restricted capacity involved in NBSAP development, revision and implementation, to identify existing guidance and opportunities for addressing each Aichi Biodiversity Target in a manner that enables the objectives of the biodiversity-related conventions to be addressed coherently and efficiently.

Complementary to earlier mapping efforts, this current report by UNEP-WCMC was commissioned by the Finnish Ministry of the Environment to address the gaps raised above by **mapping possible linkages between the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the articles, resolutions, decisions, strategic plans, joint work plans, and convention specific tools or guidelines for six biodiversity-related conventions**<sup>7</sup>. It was designed to inform discussions on the actual and potential areas of cooperation and collaboration among the biodiversity-related conventions in order to help to identify possible options for achieving synergies in the implementation of the conventions and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets at national level. As an indicative study, the objective was to inform future work to enhance the coherent implementation of the biodiversity-related conventions. Information from this report was used to develop a background paper entitled 'Background Information: Mapping MEAs to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets – interim summary of results' (see annex 1) for the *Second Multi-Stakeholder Expert Meeting on Elaboration of Options for Synergies among Biodiversity-related MEAs* held in May 2015, as part of the aforementioned UNEP project.

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<sup>5</sup> The questionnaire and related workshops led to the development of the UNEP *Sourcebook of opportunities for enhancing cooperation among the Biodiversity-related Conventions at national and regional levels*, which was published in May 2015. The *Sourcebook* is available online: <http://wcmc.io/sourcebook-web> [Accessed: 12 August 2015].

<sup>6</sup> Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (2014) *Global Biodiversity Outlook 4*. Montréal, 155 pages.

<sup>7</sup> CBD, the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA), the Ramsar Convention, the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (WHC) and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). We acknowledge that there are now seven members of the Biodiversity Liaison Group and therefore the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) should be considered in similar analyses conducted in the future. Please note that the articles, decisions and tools of the Protocols adopted under the CBD (Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization, and the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety) as well as the CMS daughter agreements, were also not considered in this exercise.

## 2 Methodology

### 2.1 Search

In order to complete this ‘mapping exercise’, a desk study was carried out, reviewing articles, resolutions, decisions, strategic plans, joint work plans, and convention specific tools or guidelines for six biodiversity-related conventions for possible linkages with the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, focusing specifically on guidance for countries. To ensure consistency, one individual undertook the review using the Aichi Target Quick Guides (produced by the CBD Secretariat)<sup>8</sup>. The Quick Guides provided information on the aims, components and indicative actions associated with each target. Inevitably, giving the broad nature of each Aichi Biodiversity Target, a certain amount of subjective judgment was used to identify decisions, tools and guidelines that seemed relevant to implementing the Aichi Biodiversity Target. The initial linkages identified were captured in a spreadsheet that includes:

- Hyperlinks to text/tools;
- Records of how the tools were found on the conventions’ websites;
- Summary justification of the relationship with the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (primarily the extract of text which related to the respective Aichi Biodiversity Target).

The **scope** of the exercise was restricted to the following list of Conference of the Parties (COPs), Committee sessions (COM) and Governing Body Sessions (GBS) that took place after the Aichi Biodiversity Targets were agreed at CBD COP 10 in October 2010 (see Figure 1 below). Whilst the exercise had a post-October 2010 focus (in part in order to focus on providing an update to the EMG and IUCN worked described above which considered pre-2010 guidance), the **relevance of pre-October 2010 guidance** for countries (decisions and resolutions) to implementation and reporting related to progress in achieving specific Aichi Biodiversity Targets should not be forgotten. For example, a number of CITES resolutions and decisions adopted pre-2010 remain valid or have been revised following CITES COP 16 and have links to several Aichi Biodiversity Targets. In order to take into account the process of retirement of decisions and resolutions applied by CITES, the exercise includes all decisions that remain valid post-COP 16<sup>9</sup>, regardless of when they were adopted. With regard to CITES resolutions, the exercise focused on resolutions that had been newly adopted at COP 16, and thus listed on the website under COP 16<sup>10</sup>. This was supplemented by CITES resolutions revised at COP 16 or adopted pre-COP 16 that remain in effect to date, which were highlighted by the CITES Secretariat during their review of this current report.

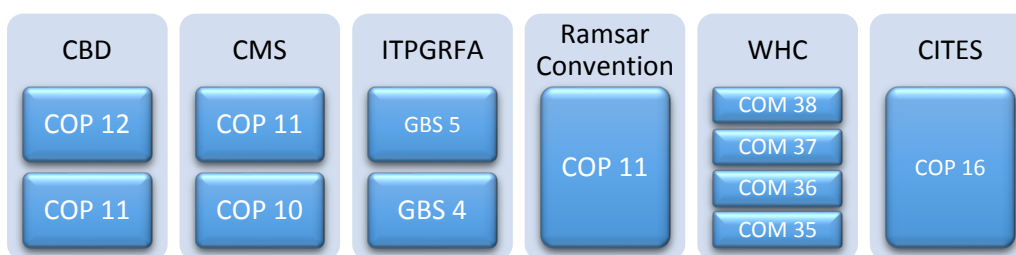


Figure 1 List of Governance Body sessions included in the scope of this study

**Articles (including appendices) and strategic plans** were reviewed to note where conventions have a ‘responsibility’ to address components of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. CMS’, CITES’ and Ramsar Convention’s own Strategic Plan-Aichi Biodiversity Target mapping exercises were taken into account<sup>11</sup>, whilst keeping consistent to the methodology described in this section, and thus ensuring a

<sup>8</sup> Available online: <https://www.cbd.int/nbsap/training/quick-guides> [Accessed: 12 February 2015].

<sup>9</sup> Available online: <https://cites.org/eng/dec/index.php> [Accessed: 14 September 2015].

<sup>10</sup> Available online: <https://cites.org/eng/res/index.php> [Accessed: 14 September 2015].

<sup>11</sup> Please find the full mapping exercises from CITES, the Ramsar Convention and CMS listed in Section 6.2, as annexes to this report.

consistent approach across the six conventions considered. The strategic plans reviewed for this exercise were:

- The CITES Strategic Vision 2008-2020;
- The Ramsar Strategic Plan 2009-2015<sup>12</sup>;
- The Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023.

All **resolutions/decisions**<sup>13</sup> (excluding those that have been revised, see exclusion criteria below) from the meetings identified above, together with **joint work plans**, (those with a **post-2010, lasting post-2015, timeframe**)<sup>14</sup> were reviewed. Paragraphs were then mapped against the Aichi Biodiversity Targets based on possible linkages, **noting text that provides guidance for countries on how to implement, and report on, actions relevant to achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets at the national-level**. A total of 1,234 resolutions/decisions were reviewed (see Figure 1) as well as the CBD-Ramsar Convention Joint Work Plan 2011-2020. The difference in the total number of resolutions and decisions reviewed per convention – in particular the high number of WHC decisions – is due to the different governance structure and decision-making practice of each convention. The World Heritage Committee, responsible for the implementation of WHC, meets for example on a yearly basis and has a much higher number of decisions per session than the other conventions. At the same time, decisions are regularly much shorter and are often of relevance for specific World Heritage Sites only. In this context, the revision process of past resolutions and decisions by CITES, as a way of reducing the total number and volume of resolutions and decisions, and keeping them up-to-date, should be acknowledged.

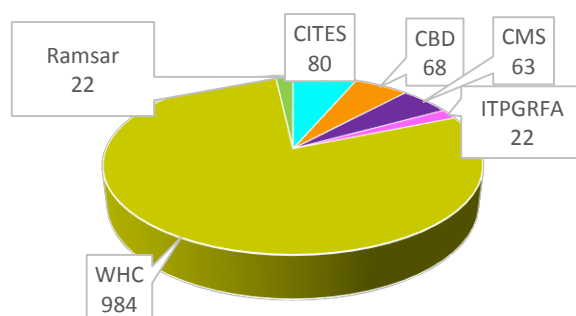


Figure 2 Number of decision/resolutions reviewed per convention for this exercise.

The following **exclusion criteria** were developed in order to refine the scope of the review in line with the resources available, and in order to reflect the **aim of finding information that will support national-level implementation by parties and other governments**:

- Procedural decisions, except those that relate to national reporting;
- World Heritage Committee decisions with specific relevance to individual state parties only (i.e. relevant for specific World Heritage Sites);

<sup>12</sup> The decision to include this Ramsar Strategic Plan in the review was made because at the time of the finalisation of the work at the beginning of May 2015, the new Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-2021 had not yet been adopted.

<sup>13</sup> Acknowledging the different practice of the conventions in adopting decisions and/or resolutions, as well as different understandings of both terms, a distinction between the two, or the agreement on a common definition, was not deemed necessary for the sake of this exercise.

<sup>14</sup> Please note that the only joint work plan between the six conventions which matches this criteria and which has been included in the matrix is the CBD and Ramsar Convention 5th Joint Work Plan 2011-2020. The CITES-CMS Joint Work Programme 2015-2020 has not been included because it was not yet available online at the time of the finalisation of the review (beginning of May 2015).

- Annexes (these were only considered when these were necessary to comprehend the context of the strategic plan/decision/resolutions/joint work plan);
- Specifically in relation to Aichi Biodiversity Target 20 (resource mobilisation), decisions or resolutions on paying expected contributions to the conventions as part of ratification;
- CITES resolutions revised at COP 16 or adopted pre-COP 16 that remain in effect after COP 16 (except where indicated by CITES Secretariat)<sup>15</sup>;
- Resolution/decision text that referred to activities that were time-bound for pre-2015 work.

These exclusion criteria should be noted when building upon the results of this exercise. Similar future work should address these exclusion criteria as a priority (see Section 5.2).

In addition, the **search term ‘report’** was used to search through resolution/decision text, as a means to double-check for guidance for countries on national reporting.

Resolutions/decisions mentioning those **UN organisations** that were included in the EMG work to map its members’ activities and initiatives against the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, ultimately displayed through <http://ieg.informea.org/goals/>, were recorded by searching for full organisation name and acronym to note which organisations had been mandated to provide support to implementation. The organisations included in this exercise were: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), International Fund for Agricultural Development, International Maritime Organization, UNEP, World Health Organization, United Nations University, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), World Bank Group, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

**Tools** (including guideline documents, information systems, toolkits, etc.) were captured by searching on conventions’ websites, as well as by using key search terms on Google. Tools noted in decisions/resolutions (including Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs), Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs), Ecosystem Approach, FAO Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations, FAO/ International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI) Multicrop Passport Descriptor List) were also captured. Further tools have been included based on suggestions by internal UNEP-WCMC experts or by the convention secretariats (responses were received from WHC, CITES and CMS). The following **exclusion criteria** were adopted when searching for tools:

- Tools, which did not include a convention logo, thereby reducing the clarity of whether the tool is a ‘main-convention tool’;
- Convention workshop materials for participants (often restricted to participants);
- References to, or suggestions of, using annual awareness raising events (e.g. for World Wildlife Day, World Wetlands day), except for cases when specific guidance packages or information documents were provided or referred to.

The information was compiled into the **matrix** (335 pages containing 863 paragraphs/sub-paragraphs of resolution/decision text – see figure 2) included as supplementary information to this report (see appendix 1). The matrix has the following structure: rows for each Aichi Biodiversity Target and for each convention that has articles, resolutions, decisions, strategic plans, joint work plans, and convention specific tools or guidelines with possible linkages to the respective Aichi Biodiversity

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<sup>15</sup> This exclusion is the result of an oversight by the project team. On the CITES website, the list of resolutions in effect after CITES COP 16 are arranged by COP. At the time of the review, notification of revisions of resolutions by subsequent COPs was only recorded against the original resolution number under the COP in which the resolution was first adopted. The project team overlooked this while carrying out the review, and as a result amendments to existing resolutions have not been included (except where indicated by CITES Secretariat during the report of this report).

Target; columns for convention articles, resolutions/decision text, main convention tools and guidelines, main reporting guidelines. Each convention is colour coded in the matrix and this corresponds to figures 1 and 2, and to the other pie-charts presented in this report (see below). Orange = CBD, light blue = CITES, purple = CMS, pink = ITPGRFA, green = Ramsar Convention, gold = WHC.

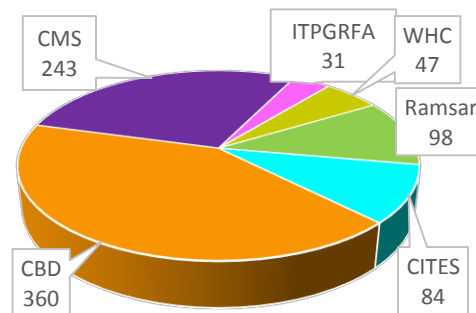


Figure 3 Number of paragraphs/ sub-paragraphs of decisions/ resolutions, included in the matrix per convention

The review took place in March 2015.

## 2.2 Analysis and report preparation

### Part A

The following was identified from the information contained in the **matrix**:

- The biodiversity-related conventions that have ‘**responsibilities**’ (**articles and strategic plan strategies and/or targets**) for encouraging action by Parties to address specific Aichi Biodiversity Targets;
- The biodiversity-related conventions that provide ‘**guidance**’ (**decisions, resolutions, joint work plans, and tools, including in relation to reporting**) for countries on implementation and reporting related to progress in achieving specific Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

The trends in this information were captured as a **narrative report**. Clusters of conventions that provide guidance for countries on a similar topic were highlighted. Text was **bolded** to distinguish between narrative on responsibilities and guidance, to highlight tools (also italicised), and to distinguish between narrative related to different conventions (in particular where reference was made to more than one convention in the same paragraph). In order to clearly display any discrepancies between responsibilities and guidance (i.e. conventions that have articles that suggest that they relate to a target but without supportive decisions) **summary tables were prepared for each Aichi Biodiversity Target**. These tables use a key (+ = most comprehensive, [blank] = some detail, - = less comprehensive, no mention = no guidance for countries) to display the extent to which guidance is provided for all components of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. **The information contained in Part A does not attempt to be exhaustive, but to give a flavour of the possibilities for consolidating the guidance for countries provided by the biodiversity-related conventions considered in this project, to support those attempting to conduct coherent approaches to achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.**

Additionally, a **pie chart** has been prepared for each Aichi Biodiversity Target to display the number of paragraphs/sub-paragraphs of guiding decision/resolution/joint work plan text provided by the conventions. **The number of paragraphs was used for the graphs as opposed to the number of resolutions/decisions/joint work plans as some resolutions/decisions exhibit different paragraphs that are relevant for different Aichi Biodiversity Targets.** Using the number of the paragraphs as a measure also attempts to reduce the influence on the figures of the high number of

short decisions taken by some conventions. When viewing the graphs, readers of this report should be aware that given the timeframe adopted to refine the scope of the study, there are some conventions that have had more COPs (or equivalent) than others over this period. The level of detail provided by guiding decisions does not correlate with the number of paragraphs but the total number of paragraphs does indicate the volume of information that those seeking guidance would have to search through to identify whether the guidance they are searching for is available.

Summarising the information that was included in Part A, a table was prepared (see appendix 2) capturing key phrases from the narrative report/guidance for countries provided by the conventions (non-exhaustive) on implementing, and reporting on, actions related to achieving specific Aichi Biodiversity Targets. This '**checklist**' is an example of an intermediary step towards adapting the information contained in the matrix to help those revising and implementing NBSAPs to identify considerations and actions of relevance to addressing each Aichi Biodiversity Target.

## *Part B*

Whilst preparing Part A, the following were identified:

- potential areas of **overlap** in the guidance for countries;
- where **further guidance** for countries may be necessary;
- and potential **opportunities**, which should build upon existing initiatives<sup>16</sup>, **for cooperation and collaboration among biodiversity-related conventions**, including possible opportunities for consolidated guidance for countries.

Part B of the analysis provides a summary of the above in the context of seven thematic areas that have been used by other processes aiming to identify opportunities for alignment, cooperation and collaboration among biodiversity-related MEAs.<sup>17</sup> The **seven thematic areas** are: NBSAPs, the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets; Reporting, monitoring and indicators; IPBES and strengthening the science-policy interface; Information management and awareness raising; Capacity building; Funding and resource efficiency; Institutional collaboration.

Secretariats of the conventions included in this study were given opportunities to comment on the report. Consequently, comments/additions from the CMS and WHC Secretariats were incorporated into the report before finalisation, especially in relation to key convention tools. Detailed comments on this report were provided by the CITES Secretariat. These comments were addressed if in-keeping with the methodology as outlined above. All of the suggested amendments proposed by the CITES Secretariat have been recorded in appendix 3 of this report.

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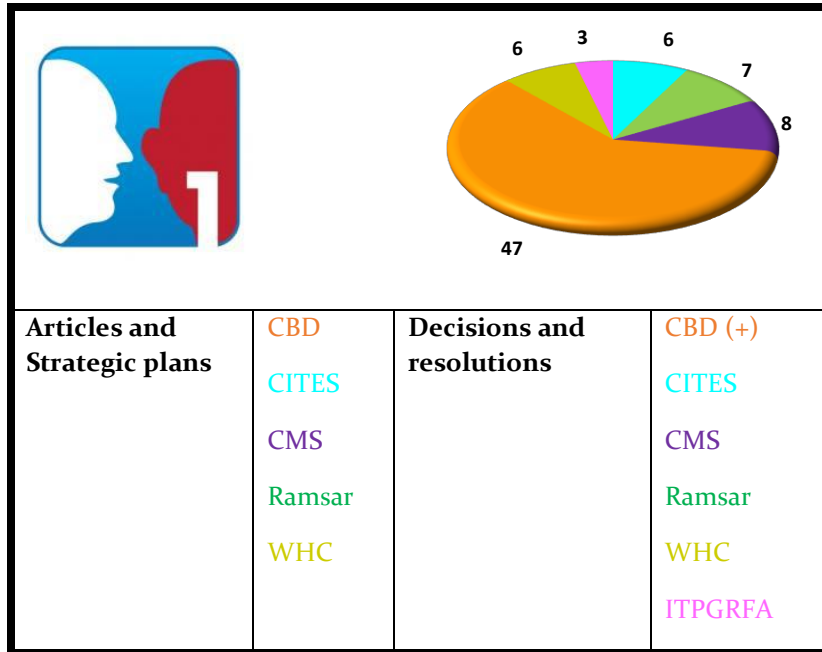
<sup>16</sup> As identified in the outcome document entitled 'Elaboration of options for synergies among biodiversity-related MEAs' of two expert meetings convened by UNEP as part of the UNEP project *Improving the effectiveness of and cooperation among biodiversity-related conventions and exploring opportunities for further synergies*.

<sup>17</sup> UNEP project *Improving the effectiveness of and cooperation among biodiversity-related conventions and exploring opportunities for further synergies*; UNEP-WCMC (2012) *Promoting synergies within the cluster of biodiversity-related Multilateral Environmental Agreements*, Cambridge, UK.

### 3 Analysis – Part A

#### 3.1 Strategic Goal A: Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society

*Aichi Biodiversity Target 1 - By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably*



Among the six biodiversity-related conventions, **CBD** and **WHC** include **articles** that are related to action towards achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 1.

Even though **CMS**, the **Ramsar Convention** and **CITES** do not have **articles** on awareness raising in their convention texts, the **Ramsar Strategic Plan 2009-2015**, the newly adopted **Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023**, and the **CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2020**, include strategies and target(s) related to Aichi Biodiversity Target 1. The Ramsar Strategic Plan in particular promotes the Convention’s **Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness Programme (CEPA)**.

All conventions have developed **guidance** that is of relevance for Aichi Biodiversity Target 1.

**CBD** decisions promote specific communication initiatives or biodiversity events, e.g. UN Decade on Biodiversity. **CBD** decisions that promote public availability of data and the development of indicators are also relevant to raising awareness on biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.

Furthermore, awareness raising (training, capacity building, sharing of knowledge and dissemination of best practices) on specific issues is promoted by the **CBD**, e.g. the links between biodiversity and health, synergies between biodiversity and climate change, ecosystem restoration, sustainable use including agroecological approaches, sustainable use of wildlife, sustainable tourism, biofuel and its implications on biodiversity, and the significant adverse impacts of anthropogenic underwater noise on marine and coastal biodiversity. With regard to sustainable wildlife harvest levels at national and other levels, **CBD** decisions call specifically on different stakeholders to build capacity and awareness at the community level. **CBD** decisions also call on Parties to review and revise strategies for communicating biodiversity agenda and policies to business. The **CEPA Toolkit**<sup>18</sup>, designed for **CBD**

<sup>18</sup> Available online: <https://www.cbd.int/cepa/toolkit/2008/cepa/index.htm> [Accessed: 9 September 2015].



focal points, consists of a range of social instruments, including education, marketing, information exchange and dialogue, which may be supportive of such actions.

CITES decisions relevant to Aichi Biodiversity Target 1 provide **guidance** to Parties implicated in the illegal trade of rhinoceros horn to develop and implement strategies or programmes to enhance community awareness with regard to the economic, social and environmental impacts of illicit trafficking in wildlife crime. Parties are also called on to encourage the general public to report illegal activities related to wildlife trade; as well as on range states to collaborate on public education programmes for selected species. Regarding tortoises and freshwater turtles, a decision states that Parties should conduct education and outreach efforts directed towards turtle farms, buyers and sellers of turtle shell, bones, cartilage (calipee), and other parts, medicinal product manufacturers, shippers, brokers, and other key stakeholders, to better ensure that turtle parts and derivatives are traded in compliance with national laws and CITES requirements. Relevant **tools** include *Hope for a sustainable future (2014)*<sup>19</sup>, which aims to raise awareness on the role of CITES in biodiversity conservation.

CMS decisions call for public awareness and behavioural change campaigns to:

- assist preventing waste from reaching the (marine) environment;
- cooperate with organisation currently campaigning on marine debris;
- and encourages Parties and non-Parties to take measures to increase awareness of wildlife crime and offences.

CMS COP 11 also specifically invited UNEP to celebrate and raise awareness of the World Migratory Bird Day in 2015.

The **Ramsar Convention** resolutions promote awareness on the potential impacts of the energy sector on wetlands, the 2011-2020 UN Decade on Biodiversity, the links between wetlands and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and sustainable tourism in Ramsar Sites. Decisions also urge Contracting Parties to strengthen the role of CEPA in working with local communities to improve available information, and enhance community understanding of the risks to wetlands from the unsustainable and other inappropriate use of pesticides. **Tools** that support the implementation of CEPA include a *Handbook on the Best Practices for Planning, Design and Operation of Wetland Education Centres (2014)*<sup>20</sup>, and a range of *World Wetlands Day support materials*<sup>21</sup> for organisers and teachers available on the main World Wetlands Day website. Regarding sustainable tourism, the Convention calls on Contracting Parties to use Ramsar Sites as a branding opportunity to promote sustainable tourism and recreation practices, and **tools** to support this include *Destination Wetlands: Supporting Sustainable Tourism (2012)*<sup>22</sup>, which aims to raise awareness of the close relationship between wetlands and tourism and to promote good practices and recommendations through lessons learned and case studies on how they can achieve mutual benefits.

ITPGRFA resolutions in particular promote information systems on national plant genetic resources as well as public access to such systems. Contracting Parties are encouraged to engage farmers' organisations and relevant stakeholders in matters related to the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources through awareness raising and capacity building.

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19 Available online: [https://cites.org/sites/default/files/i/CITES\\_WWD\\_Brochure2014.pdf](https://cites.org/sites/default/files/i/CITES_WWD_Brochure2014.pdf) [Accessed: 23 September 2015].

20 Available online: [http://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/library/2014wec-hb\\_en\\_lr.pdf](http://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/library/2014wec-hb_en_lr.pdf) [Accessed: 12 August 2015].

21 Available online: <http://www.worldwetlandsday.org/documents> [Accessed: 12 August 2015].

22 Available online: [http://archive.ramsar.org/pdf/copu/tourism-publication/Ramsar\\_UNWTO\\_tourism\\_E\\_Sept2012.pdf](http://archive.ramsar.org/pdf/copu/tourism-publication/Ramsar_UNWTO_tourism_E_Sept2012.pdf) [Accessed: 12 August 2015].

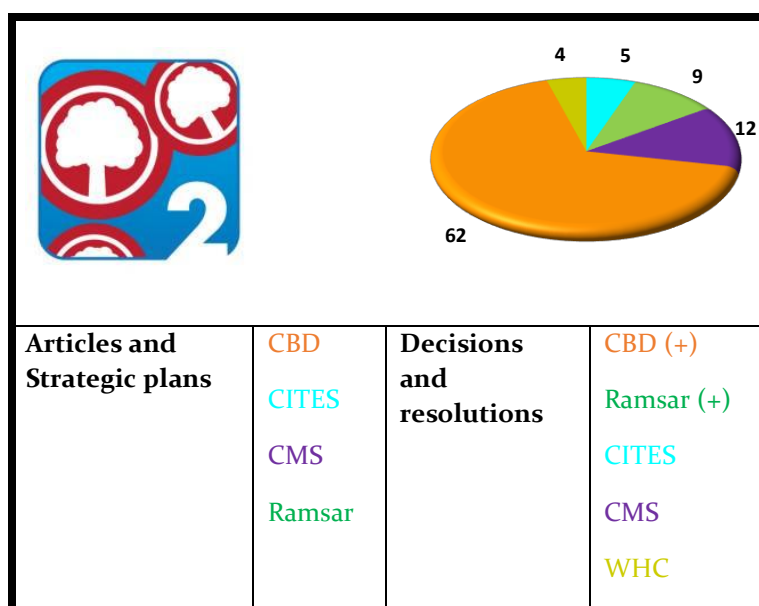
WHC decisions call on States Parties to contribute towards the improvement of the information System and its access for the international community. States Parties in the African Region are also requested to strengthen collaboration in awareness-raising activities. WHC has a range of tools that contribute to raising awareness on the values of biodiversity, including *Patrimonto's World Heritage Adventures*<sup>23</sup>, a series of cartoons targeted at children that focus on World Heritage Sites and the threats these face, and the *World Heritage in Young Hands Education Resource Kit*<sup>24</sup>, that aims to sensitise secondary school children to the importance of preserving their local, national and world heritage.

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<sup>23</sup> Available online: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/patrimonto> [Accessed: 12 August 2015].

<sup>24</sup> Available online: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/educationkit/> [Accessed: 12 August 2015].

*Aichi Biodiversity Target 2 - By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems*



Among the six biodiversity-related conventions, **CBD** and the **Ramsar Convention** include **articles** that are related to progress in achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 2.

Even though **CMS** does not have **articles** relevant to mainstreaming of biodiversity values in its convention texts, the **Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023** includes a target on integration of the multiple values of migratory species and their habitats in different strategies and planning processes, which is closely aligned with Aichi Biodiversity Target 2. Similarly the **CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2020** includes objectives for parties to comply with their obligations under the convention through appropriate policies, legislation and procedures. The **Ramsar Convention Strategic Plan 2009-2015** includes strategies relevant to Aichi Biodiversity Target 2, on ‘policy, legislation and institutions’, ‘cross-sectoral recognition of wetlands’ and ‘integrated water resource management’.

The **Ramsar Convention** and the **CBD** provide guidance in their **5th Joint Work Plan 2011-2020**: ‘Key activities identified for cooperation in particular include identifying and implementing joint activities to promote the integration of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and the wise use of wetlands into relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies, including poverty reduction strategies’. Making use of the **ecosystem approach**<sup>25</sup> in planning processes has also been identified as a key activity for collaboration in the **Joint Work Plan**.

**CBD** decisions invite Parties, all partners and stakeholders to integrate the three objectives of the **CBD** into sustainable development and poverty eradication programmes, plans, policies and priority actions, and vice versa. Parties are also invited to monitor, evaluate and **report** on these integration efforts, through appropriate indicators and tools, and to include this information in their national **report**. In their efforts, Parties are encouraged to identify and overcome barriers to the implementation of decisions of the COPs, such as lack of cross-sector coordination, resources and political prioritisation, and to share lessons learned and the approaches or methods used to overcome barriers using the Clearing House Mechanism (CHM). To support biodiversity mainstreaming work,

<sup>25</sup> Available online: <https://www.cbd.int/ecosystem/sourcebook/default.shtml> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

the CBD has developed *NBSAP training module 3 on 'Mainstreaming biodiversity into national sectoral and cross-sectoral strategies, policies, plans and programs'* (2011, version 2.1).<sup>26</sup> Regarding integration of biodiversity values in poverty reduction strategies, Parties are encouraged to apply the *Chennai Guidance for the Integration of Biodiversity and Poverty Eradication*.<sup>27</sup>

Regarding processes for the valuation of biodiversity and ecosystem services, all partners and stakeholders involved in biodiversity-related programmes are encouraged to consider different perspectives and priorities. CBD decisions further invite Parties and other Governments to develop proposals for extending longer-term technical support and capacity-building on valuation methodologies and the integration of the values of biodiversity into relevant national and local policies, programmes and planning processes, including NBSAPs, as well as **reporting systems**, including national accounting. **Tools** for ecological valuation are referred to in *Decision VIII/25*.<sup>28</sup>

Parties and other Governments are encouraged to enter into partnerships across sectors to develop, disseminate and integrate appropriate tools and processes to apply the findings of the *study of The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) and other valuation tools* to support decision-making at the island level (see below for reference to *The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) for Water and Wetlands (2013)*<sup>29</sup> that may be a useful tool to this effect).

CBD decisions encourage Parties and all partners, institutions, organisations and processes concerned to consider the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets in developing the post-2015 UN development agenda and in the process of establishing Sustainable Development Goals under the UN General Assembly. Regarding the linkages between biodiversity and human health in this context, Parties are invited to consider the information in the *State of Knowledge Review: Connecting Global Priorities: Biodiversity and Human Health (2015)*<sup>30</sup>, to identify opportunities for mutually supporting implementation of NBSAPs and national strategies, plans and programmes for human health.

**Guidance** is also provided to Parties to consider the use of various relevant voluntary **tools** regarding the impact of the production and use of biofuels on biodiversity, such as in *strategic environment and socio-economic assessment and integrated land-use planning*.

**CMS** decisions urge Parties to facilitate cooperation among international organisations, and to promote the integration of biodiversity concerns related to migratory species into all relevant sectors by coordinating their national positions among the various conventions, and other international fora, including bodies whose prime objective is not wildlife conservation, to ensure that the requirements of habitats of migratory birds are integrated into land-use policies.

Furthermore, **CMS** decisions urge Parties to implement a number of priorities in the development of renewable energy technologies and to apply *SEA and EIA* procedures, when planning the use of renewable energy technologies. Regarding voluntary guidelines on SEA and EIA, Parties are urged and non-Parties encouraged to apply a specified minimum standard. **CMS** decisions also foster making the post-construction monitoring of environmental impacts, including those on migratory species, a standard requirement for climate change mitigation and adaptation projects, especially wind power.

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26 Available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/training/nbsap/b3-train-mainstream-revised-en.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

27 The annex to CBD COP 12 Decision XII/5, available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-12/cop-12-dec-05-en.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

28 The annex to CBD COP 8 Decision VIII/25, available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-08/cop-08-dec-25-en.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

29 Available online: [http://doc.teebweb.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/TEEB\\_WaterWetlands\\_Report\\_2013.pdf](http://doc.teebweb.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/TEEB_WaterWetlands_Report_2013.pdf) [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

30 Available online: <http://www.cbd.int/en/health/stateofknowledge> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

**WHC** decisions **guide** States Parties to refine and put in place relevant legal tools or management plans concerning the conservation of properties and management of buffer zones. This includes developing adequate legislative frameworks and collaborative frameworks between agencies for the conservation of properties, including agencies in charge of follow-up of other conventions and international agreements. Moreover, States Parties are encouraged to establish and promote horizontal cooperation between various institutions that have an impact on cultural and natural heritage, including governmental institutions responsible for implementation of UNESCO programmes at the national level.

**CITES** decisions encourage parties implicated in illegal trade of rhinoceros horn, to enhance community awareness on the economic, social and environmental impacts of illegal wildlife trade, through the development and implementation of targeted strategies and programmes.

**Ramsar Convention** resolutions invite Contracting Parties to adopt and apply ecological impact criteria for energy generation (*guidance for SEA and EIA contained in Resolution X.1*<sup>31</sup>) consistently, as part of SEA processes or water resources planning processes.

**Guidance** is also provided on integrating wetland biodiversity conservation and wise use related to pesticide use into national policies and strategies (or equivalent) for wetlands, NBSAPs, national agricultural policies and regulations, and national strategies for the implementation of other relevant Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs). Parties are urged to adopt an *ecosystem approach* to health in wetlands and their catchments with integrated methodologies and actions used as relevant sectors. The **Ramsar Convention** also co-published *The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) for Water and Wetlands (2013)*.<sup>32</sup>

The application of *EIA* and/or *SEA* as **tools** for integration of biodiversity values into development planning is promoted by **CBD, Ramsar Convention, CMS and WHC**.

In particular, **CMS** resolutions urge Parties and encourage non-Parties to implement the *AEWA Conservation Guidelines No. 11 on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) procedures*<sup>33</sup> regarding the development of power lines. In addition, **WHC** decisions encourages Parties to be proactive in relation to development and conservation of World Heritage properties by conducting a **SEA** at the time of nomination to anticipate the impact of any potential development on the area of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV). **WHC** decisions also recommend that States Parties use *Heritage and EIAs*<sup>34</sup> in assessing projects before they reach a point where the World Heritage reactive monitoring process comes into play.

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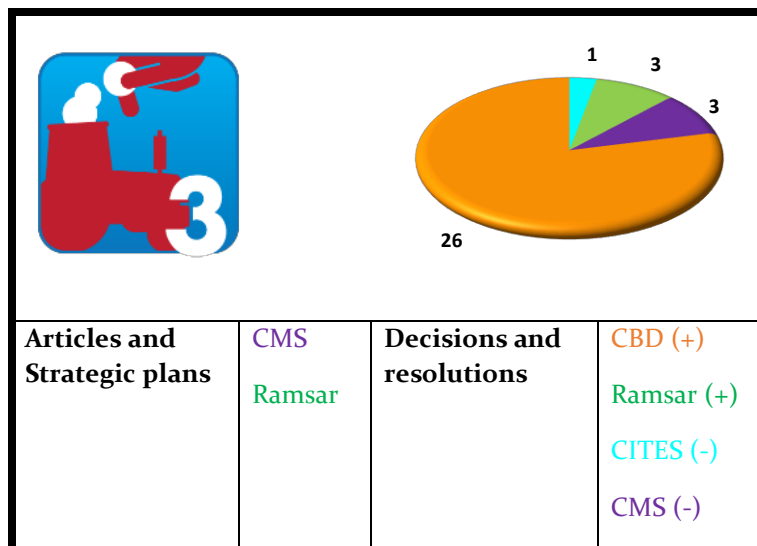
<sup>31</sup> Ramsar COP 10 Resolution X.17, available online: [http://archive.ramsar.org/pdf/res/key\\_res\\_x\\_17\\_e.pdf](http://archive.ramsar.org/pdf/res/key_res_x_17_e.pdf) [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

<sup>32</sup> Available online: [http://doc.teebweb.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/TEEB\\_WaterWetlands\\_Report\\_2013.pdf](http://doc.teebweb.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/TEEB_WaterWetlands_Report_2013.pdf) [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

<sup>33</sup> Available online: [http://www.unep-awea.org/sites/default/files/publication/cg\\_11\\_o.pdf](http://www.unep-awea.org/sites/default/files/publication/cg_11_o.pdf) [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

<sup>34</sup> WHC 38 COM 7, paragraph 2, available online: <http://whc.unesco.org/archive/2014/whc14-38com-7-en.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

*Aichi Biodiversity Target 3 – By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socio economic conditions*



None of the six biodiversity-related conventions outlines responsibility relevant to Aichi Biodiversity Target 3 in their convention texts. However, the **Ramsar Strategic Plan 2009-2015** promotes incentive measures that encourage the application of the wise use provision of the convention and **CMS Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023** promotes incentives, including subsidies, harmful to migratory species, both relevant to Aichi Biodiversity Target 3.

**CBD** decisions provide **guidance** to Parties to address harmful incentives through their strategies for resource mobilisation.

Regarding technical support and capacity-building for implementing the modalities and milestones for Aichi Biodiversity Target 3, relevant international organisations that support the programme of work on incentive measures, such as **FAO**, **UNCTAD**, **UNDP**, **UNEP** and its initiative on the Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity, **World Trade Organisation**, and others, are invited to continue and further upscale their work.

Regarding **reporting**, **CBD** decisions invite Parties to include in their national reports in particular information on practical experiences in the implementation of biodiversity-related positive incentives, and lessons learned in overcoming obstacles encountered in implementing policies for addressing harmful incentives. Furthermore, Parties are invited to **report** progress in achieving milestones agreed upon in **Decision XII/3**<sup>35</sup>, as well as any additional milestones and timelines established at the national level, through their national reports or through the online reporting framework on implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

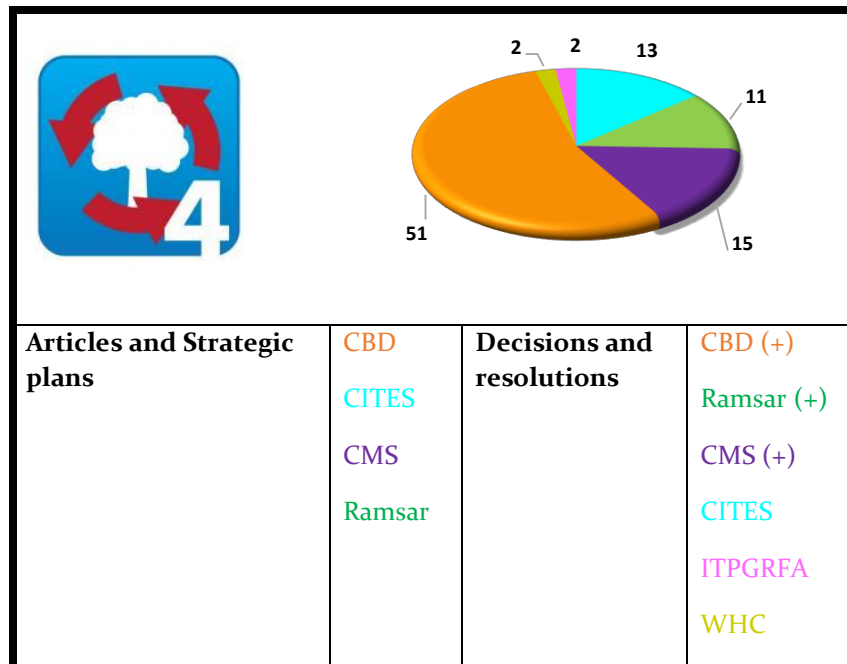
Relevant **CBD tools** to achieve progress under Aichi Biodiversity Target 3 include an analysis of the **Obstacles encountered in implementing options identified for eliminating, phasing out or reforming incentives that are harmful for biodiversity (2014)**.<sup>36</sup>

<sup>35</sup> Annex 3 to CBD COP 12 Decision XII/3, available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-12/cop-12-dec-03-en.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

<sup>36</sup> Available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/sbstta/sbstta-18/official/sbstta-18-11-en.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

The **Ramsar Convention** resolutions encourage Contracting Parties to explore opportunities for incentives to support the wise use and restoration of wetlands and specifically recognise the need for policies that avoid the negative impacts of the use of pesticides in rice production. Rice and pesticide industries are also directly requested to eliminate the use of perverse incentives.

*Aichi Biodiversity Target 4 – By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits.*



Among the six biodiversity-related conventions, **CBD** include an **article** that is relevant for progress in achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 4: **Article 14** on Impact Assessments and Minimizing Adverse Impacts, and paragraph 3 of **CITES Article IV**, on the regulation of trade in specimens of species, is also of relevance to the implementation of plans for sustainable consumption.

Even though **CMS** does not have **articles** related to sustainable production and consumption in its convention text, the **Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023** include a relevant Target which is closely aligned to Aichi Biodiversity Target 4. The **Ramsar Strategic Plan 2009-2015** promotes the involvement of the private sector in the conservation and wise use of wetlands. The **CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2020** envisions for Parties and the Secretariat to cooperate with other relevant international organisations and agreements dealing with natural resources in order to achieve a coherent and collaborative approach to species which can be endangered by unsustainable trade, including those which are commercially exploited.

**Guidance** is provided by **CBD** decisions that encourage Parties and invite other governments to include specific criteria on biodiversity in national procurement plans, national strategies for sustainable consumption and production, and similar planning frameworks.

Parties are further invited to work to:

- support the Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity and its associated national and regional initiatives;
- seek to foster public and private partnerships;
- continue work to create an enabling environment, such that businesses, including publicly funded and local community businesses, can effectively implement the objectives of the Convention and its Protocols, as well as the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020;
- promote the consideration of biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services related to business in other relevant multilateral forums;



- establish business and biodiversity platforms/networks;
- develop tools to promote the consideration of biodiversity in business activities, including guidance to assist businesses in reporting their environmental impacts;
- support capacity-building in developing countries on developing policy measures and guidance to assist businesses in improving their biodiversity-friendly sustainable development strategies.

Furthermore, CBD decisions call on Parties and stakeholders to promote dialogue, enhanced cooperation and partnerships on sustainable tourism management; to consider the use of various relevant voluntary tools regarding the impact of the production and use of biofuels on biodiversity; to take a precautionary approach and establish, or have in place, effective risk assessment and management procedures and/or regulatory systems for synthetic biology; and regarding illegal wildlife trade, to make use of the *recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat (2012)*<sup>37</sup> as a potential complement to the *Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity (2004)*<sup>38</sup>, and to develop, revise or update regulatory systems in a mutually supportive manner with CITES.

CMS decisions recommend that Parties develop and implement their own national plans of action which should address the negative impacts of marine debris in waters within their jurisdiction and call on Parties to engage in international cooperation on migratory freshwater fish. Parties are also urged to assess the risk of bycatch arising from their gillnet fisheries, as it relates to migratory species and to engage in cooperative activities to promote the sustainable management of migratory land birds of the African-Eurasian flyway, in particular by eliminating unsustainable harvesting.

In addition, Parties, in whose areas of jurisdiction commercial operations involving marine boat-based wildlife watching take place, are urged to adopt appropriate measures, such as national guidelines, codes of conduct, and if necessary, national legislation, binding regulations or other regulatory tools, to promote ecologically sustainable wildlife watching.

Relevant tools promoted by CMS regarding the fisheries sector include the *FAO Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations (2009)*<sup>39</sup> and the *FAO International Guidelines on Bycatch Management and Reduction of Discards (2011)*.<sup>40</sup> CMS decisions also encourage Parties to implement the best practice approach and procedures outlined in the *FAO International Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries (1999)*<sup>41</sup> and its related Best Practices Technical Guidelines, the *FAO International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks (1999)*.<sup>42</sup>

The **Ramsar Convention** resolution calls upon Contracting Parties to encourage private companies with headquarters in their national territories to draft, endorse and apply standards of sustainable business conduct that ensure the integrity and the ecosystem services of wetlands in general, and of Ramsar Sites in particular. Parties are also urged to ensure that environmental and social considerations are taken into account and precaution is applied to Party investment activities that may have an adverse environmental impact on the integrity and ecological functions of wetlands.

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37 The annex to CBD COP 11 Decision XI/25, available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-11/cop-11-dec-25-en.pdf> [Accessed: 09 September 2015].

38 Available online: <https://www.cbd.int/sustainable/addis.shtml> [Accessed: 12 August 2015].

39 Available online: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/012/i0725e/i0725e00.htm> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

40 Available online: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/015/ba002t/ba002t00.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

41 Available online: <ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/006/x3170e/X3170E00.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

42 Available online: <ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/006/x3170e/X3170E00.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

With regard to specific sectors, the **Ramsar Convention** resolutions in particular encourage the strengthening of regulatory oversight of energy sector activities and to enhance application of guidance for **SEA and EIA**; note the need for Contracting Parties to consider the review, revision, and/or formulation, as appropriate, of national policies for the regulation and use of pesticides in rice production (*see Aichi Biodiversity Target 3*); and urge Contracting Parties to collaborate closely with stakeholders at all levels involved in tourism (*see the section on Aichi Biodiversity Target 1*), recreation and wetland management.

The **Ramsar Convention** encourages Contracting Parties to make use of the **Guidance for addressing the implications for wetlands of policies, plans and activities in the energy sector (2012)**<sup>43</sup> and the **Integrated Framework and guidelines for avoiding, mitigating and compensating for wetland losses (2012)**<sup>44</sup>, in all aspects of commercial tourism development, and requests the Ramsar Secretariat to consult with relevant organisations, including UNWTO, on ways and means to assist Parties in this matter and to **report** on progress to the COP.

ITPGRFA decisions encourage Contracting Parties to engage the participation of farmers' organisations (*see the section on Aichi Biodiversity Target 1*) and relevant stakeholders in matters related to the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources through awareness raising and capacity building.

CITES resolutions foster collaboration among origin, transit and destination countries as well as range state collaboration regarding certain shared species. To eliminate the important illegal and unreported trade in specimens of CITES-listed snake species, for example, Parties should undertake education and outreach activities directed towards snake farms, buyers and sellers of live snakes, parts and derivatives, product manufacturers, shippers, brokers and staff from government agencies involved in controlling and monitoring this trade, to ensure that snake specimens are traded in compliance with national laws and CITES provisions.

Regarding enabling policies, CITES decisions invite Parties to explore the use of registered marks of certification and origin consistent with CITES provisions. Regarding the potential shift from in situ to ex situ production, **guidance** to Parties includes adopting mitigation strategies for human-wildlife conflict and that mitigation activities take into account not only CITES-listed species but the whole ecosystem that contains them.

**Tools** relevant for Aichi Biodiversity Target 4 include **SEA and EIA** promoted by **CBD, CMS, Ramsar Convention** and **WHC**, as well as the **CITES** guidance portal on non-detriment findings<sup>45</sup>. *See the section on relevant tools under Aichi Biodiversity Target 2 for more information.*

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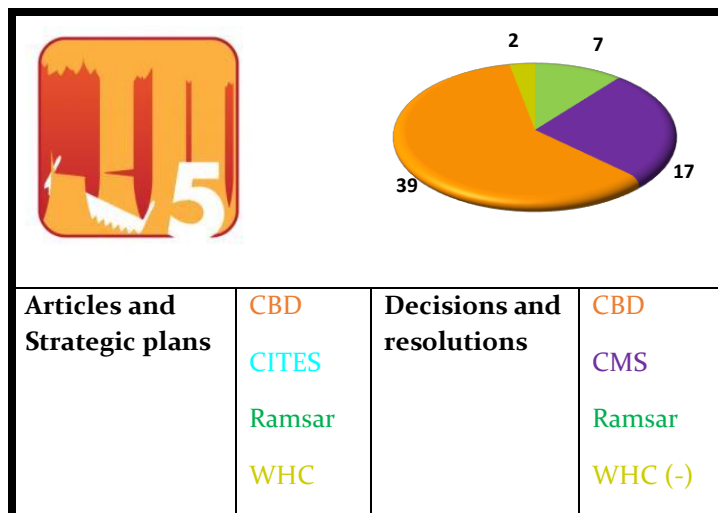
43 Available online: <http://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/guide/guide-energy-e.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

44 Available online: <http://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/guide/guide-losses-e.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

45 Available online: <https://cites.org/eng/prog/ndf/index.php> [Accessed: 23 September 2015].

### 3.2 Strategic Goal B: Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use

*Aichi Biodiversity Target 5 – By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced.*



Among the six biodiversity-related conventions, **CBD, CITES, the Ramsar Convention and WHC** have **articles** that are related to progress in achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 5.

Even though **CITES** does not have a relevant **article** addressing habitats in the convention text, **CITES Article II** provides that Parties shall not allow trade in specimens of species listed in Appendices I, II, and III, in which a number of tree species are listed, except in accordance with the provisions of the Convention. In the provisions set out in **Article 4** of **WHC**, parties are required to identify, protect and conserve areas considered as ‘natural heritage’, which includes areas covering a range of natural habitats. The **Ramsar Strategic Plan 2009-2015** fosters appropriate management and wise use for those internationally important wetlands that have not yet been formally designated as Ramsar Sites but have been identified through domestic application of the Strategic Framework or an equivalent process.

**CBD** decisions reference the importance of further enhancing cooperation on forest biodiversity including through implementing the **Collaborative Initiative for Tropical Forest Biodiversity<sup>46</sup> and the Programme of Work (PoW) on Forest Biodiversity<sup>47</sup>**. Parties are also invited to recognise and engage (including through the **PoW on Island Biodiversity<sup>48</sup>**) with the Global Island Partnership (GLISPA) as an effective partner to support its implementation. Furthermore, the work of the Satoyama Initiative in creating synergies among the various regional and global initiatives on human-influences natural environments is highlighted.

Parties and other Governments, intergovernmental organisations and other relevant organisations are further invited, taking into account the **ecosystem approach**, to develop **spatial planning approaches** at the landscape and seascape level, to help to reduce habitat loss and to promote

46 Available online: [http://www.itto.int/files/user/biodiversity/ITTO\\_CBD\\_Initiative\\_2011.pdf](http://www.itto.int/files/user/biodiversity/ITTO_CBD_Initiative_2011.pdf) [Accessed: 9 September 2015].

47 Available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/for-pow-en.pdf> [Accessed: 9 September 2015].

48 Available online: <https://www.cbd.int/island/pow.shtml> [Accessed: 9 September 2015].

ecosystem restoration. On the subject of ecosystem restoration it is thereby highlighted that priority should be given to avoid or reduce ecosystem losses.

With a view to support adaptive management and reporting on progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, in particular Targets 5, 14 and 15, Parties and other Governments, intergovernmental organisations and other relevant organisations are also invited to develop and strengthen monitoring of ecosystem degradation and restoration.

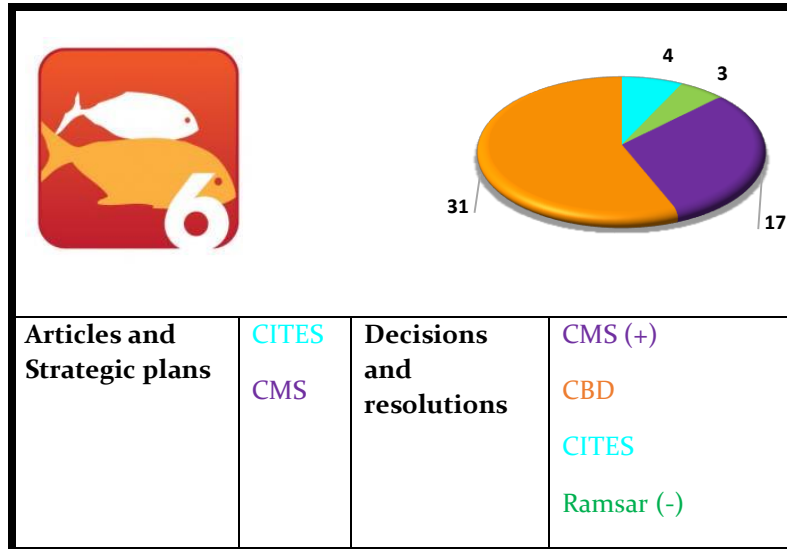
**CMS** decisions request Parties to avoid habitat loss, disturbance and barrier effects from geo-energy technologies. **Guidance** is also provided on addressing habitat loss and degradation of migratory landbird species through the development of policies that maintain, manage and restore natural and semi-natural habitats within the wider environment, including working with local communities, the poverty alleviation community, and agriculture and forestry sectors in Africa. Furthermore, CMS decisions foster the development of Action Plans to address particular conservation issues for threatened habitats of migratory bird species.

The **Ramsar Convention** in particular encourages Contracting Parties to make use of the ***Integrated Framework and guidelines for avoiding, mitigating and compensating for wetland losses (2012)***<sup>49</sup>, in all aspects of commercial tourism development, particularly those involved with the construction of infrastructure and facilities to accommodate visits to Ramsar Sites and other wetlands. Contracting Parties are also encouraged to promote wise use and maintenance of the ecological character of wetlands, including to maintain and protect wetland systems containing traditional and native rice species.

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<sup>49</sup> Available online: <http://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/guide/guide-losses-e.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

*Aichi Biodiversity Target 6 – By 2020 all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits.*



Direct responsibilities related to Aichi Biodiversity Target 6 are outlined broadly in **CITES Article II** regarding the disallowance of trade in specimens of species listed in Appendices I, II, and III, in which a number of fish species are listed, except in accordance with the provisions of the Convention. Similarly, as part of **CMS Article III**, several species of fish is included in Appendix 1, in which Range States are required to conserve and to prevent, reduce or control factors that are endangering or are likely to further endanger the species.

The **CMS Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023** Target 6 stipulates: ‘Fisheries and hunting have no significant direct or indirect adverse impacts on migratory species, their habitats or their migration routes, and impacts of fisheries and hunting are within safe ecological limits’. In addition, the **Ramsar Strategic Plan 2009-2015** generally addresses the cooperative monitoring and management of shared wetland-dependent species.

**CBD** decisions encourage Parties to strengthen the application of the **Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity (2004)**<sup>50</sup> and the ecosystem approach in spatial planning and sectoral policies that relate to the wider landscape and seascape and its components. Regarding Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSA), Parties and other governments are encouraged to also make use of the scientific information from the fisheries sector, when carrying out marine spatial planning, development of representative networks of marine protected areas and application of other area-based management measures in marine and coastal areas. **CMS** resolutions encourage Parties to engage in the ongoing work taking place within the **CBD**, to develop EBSA descriptions.

**CMS** resolutions mostly relate to sharks, rays and bycatch as it relates to migratory species. Parties are urged to assess the risk arising from gillnet fisheries and are encouraged to conduct research to identify and improve mitigation measures. **Guidance** is provided to Parties to ensure that all fishing and trade of sharks and rays are ecologically sustainable and to take steps to eliminate shark finning.

<sup>50</sup> Available online: <https://www.cbd.int/sustainable/addis.shtml> [Accessed: 12 August 2015].

Furthermore, Parties are encouraged to prioritise programmes to monitor and document shark and ray fisheries and those fisheries where sharks and rays are a significant bycatch. Parties, Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) and other relevant bodies are also encouraged to minimise the impact of fishing in migration corridors and other habitats deemed critical to the recovery and sustainability of shark and ray populations, including those that straddle jurisdictional boundaries. Parties are also called to engage in international cooperation on migratory freshwater fish (focusing on CMS-listed species).

Regarding UN **organisation** involvement, the **CMS Sharks Memorandum of Understanding** is brought to the attention of **FAO**, as a means to address inconsistency in the conservation of sharks and rays, by enhancing cooperation and complementarities between bodies sharing similar objectives.

The **CMS** advocates the use of **tools** which are of relevance for Aichi Biodiversity Target 6. These tools include best practical approaches and procedures outlined in the **FAO International Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries (1999)**<sup>51</sup> and its related Best Practices Technical Guidelines, the **FAO International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks (1999)**<sup>52</sup>, the **FAO Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations (2010)**<sup>53</sup> and the **FAO International Guidelines on Bycatch Management and Reduction of Discards (2011)**<sup>54</sup>. These tools can also support the implementation of CITES decisions.

The **CITES** decisions of relevance for Aichi Biodiversity Target 6 following COP 16 deal in particular with sharks and stingrays, freshwater stingrays, Humphead wrasse, sturgeons and paddlefish and queen conch or *Strombus gigas*. Regarding freshwater stingray, range States are encouraged to cooperate in the development and implementation of research and monitoring programmes. Regarding *S. gigas* range States are encouraged to:

- participate in the development of national, sub-regional and regional plans for their management and conservation;
- share information;
- collaborate on relevant national, sub-regional and regional legislation and enforcement issues, including illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing (IUU).

Furthermore CITES parties are encouraged to engage with the work of CMS, particularly in addressing shark species relevant for the CITES and CMS Appendices.

**CITES** maintains two online portals, on Sturgeons<sup>55</sup> and on Sharks and Manta Rays<sup>56</sup>, which includes a wide range of tools and resources relevant for the implementation of CITES related decisions and resolutions.

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51 Available online: <ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/006/x3170e/X3170E00.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

52 Available online: <ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/006/x3170e/X3170E00.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

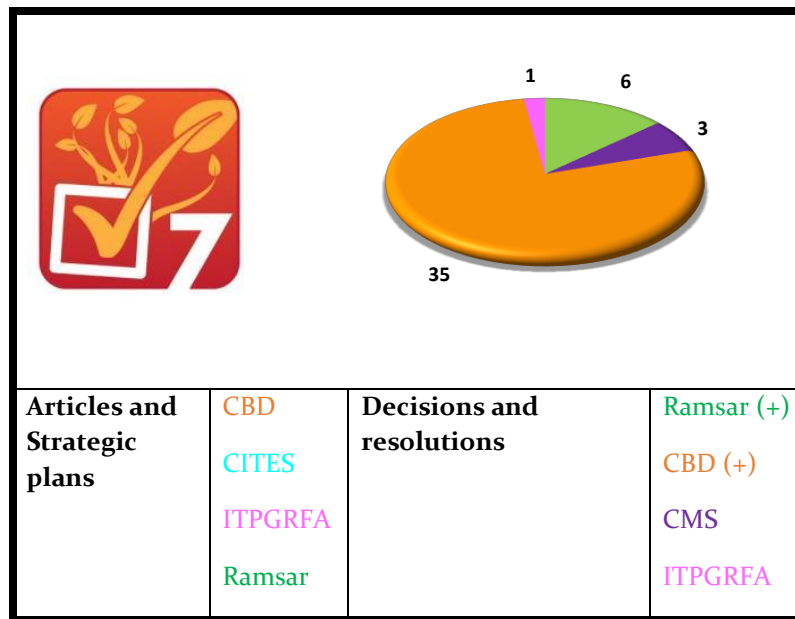
53 Available online: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/012/i0725e/i0725e.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

54 Available online: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/015/ba0022t/ba0022too.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

55 Available online: <https://cites.org/eng/prog/sturgeon.php> [Accessed: 23 September 2015].

56 Available online: <https://cites.org/eng/prog/shark> [Accessed: 23 September 2015].

*Aichi Biodiversity Target 7 – By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.*



**CBD** and **ITPGRFA** have **articles** that directly relate to Aichi Biodiversity Target 7. Even though the **Ramsar Convention** does not have any articles related to the target, their **Strategic Plan 2009-2015** includes a strategy on cross-sectoral recognition of wetland services which highlights the significance of wetlands for among others, reasons of food security by developing and disseminating methodologies to achieve wise use of wetlands. Similarly **CITES**, do not have any articles specifically related to the target, however Goal 3 of the **CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2020**, specially relates to reducing biodiversity loss and sustainably managing protection of species that could be endangered by unsustainable trade, including those that are commercially exploited.

**Guidance** provided by the **CBD** includes decisions inviting Parties to raise awareness on best practices of sustainable use, including agroecological approaches with positive impacts on the conservation of biodiversity, in order to address pressures. The Satoyama Initiative may also provide relevant guidance through its work to create synergies between the various existing regional and global initiatives on human-influenced natural environments, including the **Man and the Biosphere Programme of UNESCO**, the International Model Forest Network and other initiatives that include community conservation areas developed and managed by indigenous and local communities (ILC).

**CBD** decisions further call for efforts to enhance the implementation of the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation, and welcome the expanding collaboration between the CBD and the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) towards implementation of the Collaborative Initiative for Tropical Forest Biodiversity in several tropical regions as part of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Secretariats of ITTO and CBD. These **CBD** initiatives may produce **guidance** on implementing actions to address Aichi Biodiversity Target 7 in relation to agriculture and forestry respectively.

Parties are also encouraged to strengthen the application of the **Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity (2004)**<sup>57</sup> and the **ecosystem approach** in spatial planning and sectoral policies that relates to the wider landscape and seascape and its components.

<sup>57</sup> Available online: <https://www.cbd.int/sustainable/addis.shtml> [Accessed: 12 August 2015].

The **Ramsar Convention** resolutions relevant to Aichi Biodiversity Target 7 mostly deal with pesticide usage in rice paddies (aquaculture). Contracting Parties are encouraged to integrate relevant issues for addressing wetland biodiversity conservation and wise use related to pesticide usage in rice paddy into national policies and strategies, including national agricultural policies and regulations. Resolutions also request rice and pesticide industries to:

- address inadequate and inappropriate practices;
- secure the provision of financial resources and technical assistance from developed to developing countries;
- and to consider:
  - incorporating the use of integrated management of biodiversity in rice paddies;
  - the optimal time of planting, traditional breeding and varieties;
  - farming practices which capitalise on the capacity of the environment of rice paddies as pest control strategies.

The **Ramsar Convention** resolutions also urge Contracting Parties to strengthen the role of CEPA in working with local communities to recognise the value of the traditional agricultural practices and organic farming in pest control, and of avoiding the use of illegal/counterfeit pesticides. Contracting Parties are also strongly urged to adopt an **ecosystem approach** to health in wetlands and their catchments with integrated methodologies and actions across relevant sectors (including agriculture, aquaculture and forestry).

CMS resolutions urge Parties and invites non-Parties to implement the **Guidelines to Prevent Poisoning of Migratory Birds (2014)**<sup>58</sup>; in particular those referring to agricultural pesticides which are a major source of mortality for migratory landbirds.

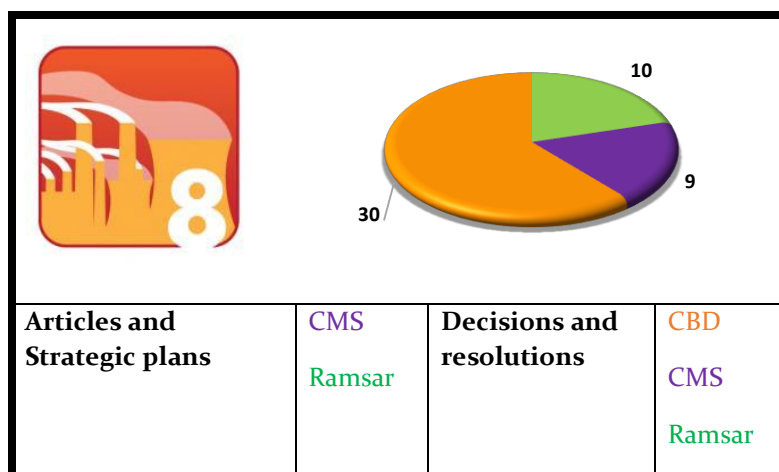
ITPGRFA decisions guide Contracting Parties to implement measures and activities that promote the sustainable use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (PGRFA), as contained in the **PoW on Sustainable Use of PGRFA** and Supporting Initiatives, including awareness raising and capacity building of farmers' organisations (*see the section on Aichi Biodiversity Target 1*) and relevant stakeholders in matters related to the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources.

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<sup>58</sup> Available online: <http://www.cms.int/en/document/guidelines-prevent-risk-poisoning-migratory-birds-short-version> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].



*Aichi Biodiversity Target 8 – By 2020, pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity*



Among the biodiversity-related conventions, the **Ramsar Convention Article 3** is relevant to Aichi Biodiversity Target 8.

Even though **CMS** does not have a relevant provision in its convention text, the **Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023** includes Target 7: Multiple anthropogenic pressures have been brought to levels that are not detrimental to the conservation of migratory species or to the functioning, integrity, ecological connectivity and resilience of their habitats.

**CBD** decisions call on Parties to enhance regional and international cooperation with a view to addressing transboundary pollution that has significant impacts on island ecosystems, including by reducing discharges from land-based sources, particularly with respect to excess nutrient inputs. Regarding noise pollution, Parties and other Governments are encouraged to take appropriate measures to avoid, minimise and mitigate the potential significant adverse impacts of anthropogenic underwater noise on marine and coastal biodiversity.

The **Ramsar Convention** resolutions provide **guidance** on the use of pesticides in wetlands (*as mentioned in the section on Aichi Biodiversity Targets 3, 4 and 7*):

- consider the review, revision, and/or formulation, of national policies for the regulation and use of pesticides in rice production;
- integrate relevant issues for addressing wetland biodiversity conservation and wise use related to pesticide usage in rice paddy into national policies and strategies;
- work with research institutions and biodiversity and human health sectors;
- request rice and pesticide industries to address inadequate and inappropriate practices;
- use CEPA to work with local communities to improve available information and enhance community understanding of the risks to wetland ecological character and ecosystem services from the unsustainable/inappropriate use of pesticides (*as mentioned in the section on Aichi Biodiversity Target 7*).

**CMS** resolutions relevant to Aichi Biodiversity Target 8 deal with general debris, in particular marine debris. Parties are invited to consider implementing cost-effective measures for the prevention of debris, such as levies on single-use carrier bags, deposit refund systems for beverage containers and obligations for the use of reusable items at events. Parties are encouraged to identify and address the sources and impacts of marine debris. Decisions also recommend that Parties develop and implement national plans of action that addresses the negative impacts of marine debris in waters within their

jurisdiction. Special attention is given to the issue of abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG). **Tools** to address this include the *FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (1995)*<sup>59</sup>. Guidance that relates to other forms of pollution includes the *Guidelines to Prevent Poisoning of Migratory Birds*<sup>60</sup> as adopted through Resolution 11.15.<sup>61</sup>

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59 Available online: <ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/005/v9878e/v9878e00.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

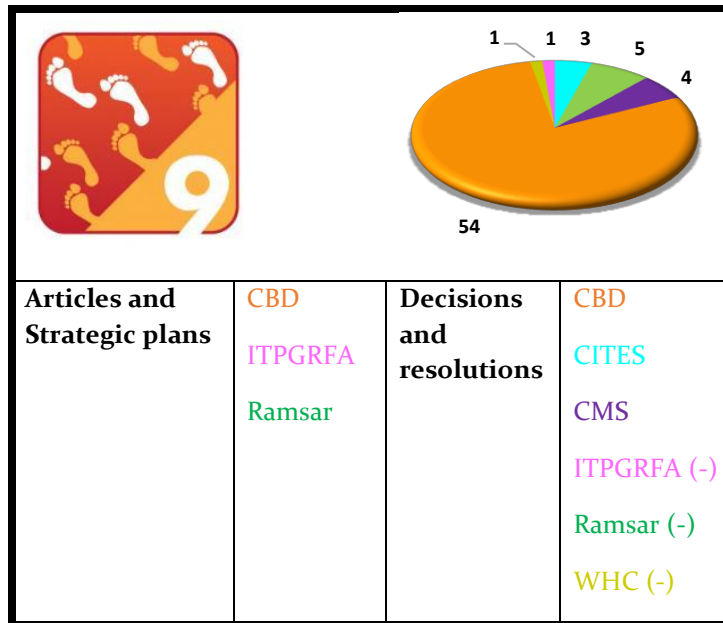
60 Available online:

<http://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/document/Guidelines%20to%20prevent%20the%20risk%20of%20poisoning%20to%20migratory%20birds.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

61 CMS COP 11 Resolution 11.15, available online:

[http://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/document/Res\\_11\\_15\\_Preventing\\_Bird\\_Poisoning\\_of\\_Birds\\_E\\_o.pdf](http://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/document/Res_11_15_Preventing_Bird_Poisoning_of_Birds_E_o.pdf) [Accessed: 9 September 2015].

*Aichi Biodiversity Target 9 – By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment.*



**CBD** article 8 requires Parties to prioritise control and eradication of alien species that poses a threat to ecosystems, habitats or species and **Article 6** of ITPGRFA addresses the sustainable use of PGRFA, including through applying ecological principles in maintaining soil fertility and in combating diseases, weeds and pests. None of the other biodiversity-related conventions have **articles** specifically related to Aichi Biodiversity Target 9, however the **Ramsar Strategic Plan 2009-2015** encourage Parties to develop a national inventory of Invasive Alien Species (IAS), guidance, and promote procedures and actions to prevent, control or eradicate such species in wetland systems.

A number of **CBD** and **CMS** decisions relate to Aichi Biodiversity Target 9. The **Ramsar Convention**, **WHC**, **CITES** and **ITPGRFA** decisions and/or resolutions do not deal explicitly with IAS. However, **Ramsar Convention** resolutions, as outlined under Aichi Biodiversity Target 7 and 8, address the issue of rice pest management. The *Ramsar wetland disease manual (2012)*<sup>62</sup> addresses IAS.

**CBD** decisions call upon Parties and invites other Governments, when developing or updating and implementing their national or regional IAS strategies, to consider making use of existing guidance on risk analysis relevant to IAS to enhance prevention. Such guidance includes **tools** developed by the **International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)**, the World Organisation for Animal Health, and **FAO**. Parties are also guided to provide information to the Global IAS Information Partnership on the invasive species recorded in their respective territories, using the **tools** developed by the Partnership, such as the *Global Register of Introduced and Invasive Species*.<sup>63</sup>

When developing or updating and implementing their national or regional IAS strategies, **CBD** decisions also promote **reporting** on the progress towards Target 10 of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation aimed at putting in place effective management plans to prevent new biological invasions and to manage important areas for plant diversity that are subject to IAS.

<sup>62</sup> Available online: [http://www.wwt.org.uk/uploads/documents/Ramsar\\_Wetland\\_Disease\\_Manual.pdf](http://www.wwt.org.uk/uploads/documents/Ramsar_Wetland_Disease_Manual.pdf) [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

<sup>63</sup> Available online: <http://www.issg.org/database/welcome/aboutGISD.asp> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

Several CBD decisions addresses IAS in the context of island biodiversity, identifying the *Threatened Island Biodiversity Database*<sup>64</sup>, *Database of Island Invasive Species Eradications*<sup>65</sup>, *Global Invasive Species Database*<sup>66</sup> and *Island Biodiversity and Invasive Species Database*<sup>67</sup> as key to enabling effective invasive species monitoring and eradication prioritisation on islands.

CBD decisions also identifies IAS capacity building needs of developing countries, focusing in particular on the capacity of border control authorities. To address threats from IAS and to make full use of existing standards in addressing the risks associated with the introduction of alien species as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, and as live bait and live food, Parties and other Governments are encouraged to ensure at national level, effective collaboration among national authorities and focal points of specified conventions and organisations. In Decision XII/16<sup>68</sup>, CBD has developed *Guidance on devising and implementing measures to address the risks associated with the introduction of alien species as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, and as live bait and live food (2014)*<sup>69</sup>.

Parties and other Governments are also invited to give due attention to both native species and genetic diversity in ecosystem conservation and restoration activities, while avoiding the introduction and preventing the spread of IAS.

CMS resolutions provide **guidance** to address threats from IAS to migratory species, including the development and further implementation of specific and/or thematic action plans and management plans for species and pathways of greater concern, focusing on best practices for addressing risks to biodiversity. Parties and non-Parties are also invited to take into account the risk of migratory species to become invasive themselves if translocated and/or introduced outside their natural range, by undertaking dedicated risk assessments incorporating future climate change scenarios for any movement of animals, including measures related to conservation actions targeting endangered species. Parties and non-Parties are further invited to take into account the risk of facilitating the introduction or spread of IAS while implementing any climate change mitigation or adaptation measures.

No relevant **tools** have been identified related to CMS.

CITES resolutions provide guidance on addressing threats from IAS in connection with trade in endangered species and recommends that parties consider IAS when developing national legislation and regulation in trade with animals or plants. Parties are also urged to undertake an assessment of the ecological risks, in order to safeguard against any negative effects on local ecosystems and native species, prior to the establishment of captive-breeding operations for exotic species.

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64 Available online: <http://tib.islandconservation.org/> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

65 Available online: <http://diise.islandconservation.org//> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

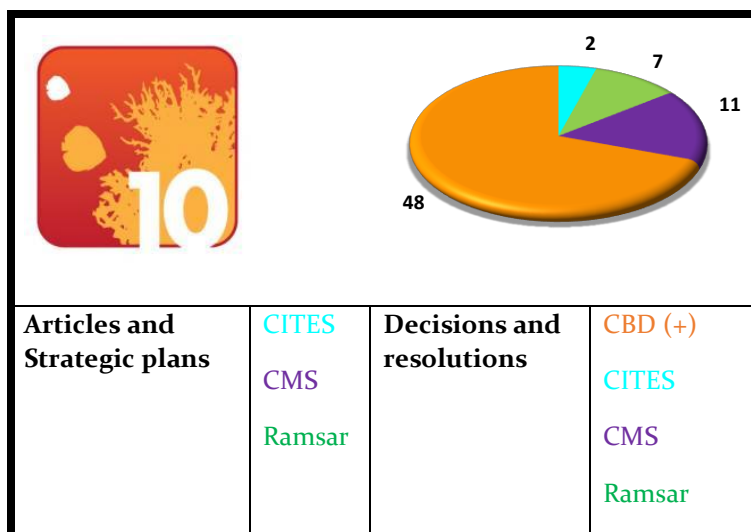
66 Available online: <http://www.issg.org/database/welcome/> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

67 Available online: <http://www.issg.org/database/welcome/> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

68 CBD COP 12 Decision XII/16, available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-12/cop-12-dec-16-en.pdf> [Accessed: 9 September 2015].

69 Available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-12/cop-12-dec-16-en.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

*Aichi Biodiversity Target 10 – By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning*



Article 2 of the **Ramsar Convention** addresses the designation of suitable wetlands for inclusion in the List of Wetlands of International Importance, including coastal zones adjacent to the wetlands, and islands or bodies of marine water deeper than six metres at low tide lying within the wetlands. As part of **CITES Article II**, parties are not allowed to trade in specimens of species listed in Appendices I, II, and III, in which a number of coral species are listed, except in accordance with the provisions of the Convention. None of the other biodiversity-related conventions have **articles** relevant to Aichi Biodiversity Target 10.

However, the **Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023** adopted by CMS includes Target 7: Multiple anthropogenic pressures have been brought to levels that are not detrimental to the conservation of migratory species or to the functioning, integrity, ecological connectivity and resilience of their habitats. The **Ramsar Strategic Plan 2009-2015** includes a strategy on cross-sectoral recognition of wetland services which highlights the significance of wetlands, including for reasons of biodiversity conservation, water supply and quality, coastal protection, environmental integrity, flood defence and climate change mitigation and/or adaptation.

**CBD** adopted priority actions to achieve Aichi Biodiversity Target 10 for coral reefs and closely associated ecosystems as an addendum to the PoW on Marine and Coastal Biodiversity, and urged Parties and invited other Governments and relevant organisations to implement these activities. Parties and other Governments are also encouraged to consider reviewing land-use planning with a view to enhance **ecosystem-based adaptation** to climate change, such as the role of mangroves in adapting to changes in sea level; and to give due attention to the conservation and restoration of coastal wetlands. **CBD** decisions also **guide** Parties to focus on actions that enhance the resilience of coral reefs and closely associated ecosystems through ecosystem-based adaptation.

**Guidance** is also provided to parties and other Governments to enhance their international collaboration to improve the monitoring of ocean acidification and to consider the information contained in an updated synthesis of the impacts of the ocean acidification on marine biodiversity (**CBD Technical Series No. 75 (2014)**<sup>70</sup>).

<sup>70</sup> Available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-75-en.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

**CITES** guidance is specifically related to trade in coral species, and parties are urged to produce practical guides for recognising corals and coral rock in trade and to make these widely available to Parties through appropriate media.

**CITES** tools include a *Notification to the Parties No. 2013/035 (2013)*<sup>71</sup>, containing a list of coral taxa where identification to genus level is accepted for purposes of implementing resolutions on national reporting and permits/certificates.

The **Ramsar Convention** resolutions urge Contracting Parties to maintain or improve the ecological character of wetlands, including their ecosystem services, to enhance the resilience of wetlands as far as possible in the face of climate-driven ecological changes.

**CMS** resolutions focus on multiple anthropogenic pressures on migratory species, including in the Arctic Ocean. Parties are invited to continue taking action to mitigate the impacts of climate change on migratory bird species, including:

- addressing immediate threats that might reduce adaptive potential;
- ensuring adequate environmental safeguards for renewable energy projects;
- monitoring the status of migratory birds and their habitats;
- developing indicators to identify the effects of climate change;
- promoting adaptive management;
- seeking new partnerships with other international bodies and considering how to assist species to adapt to climate change.

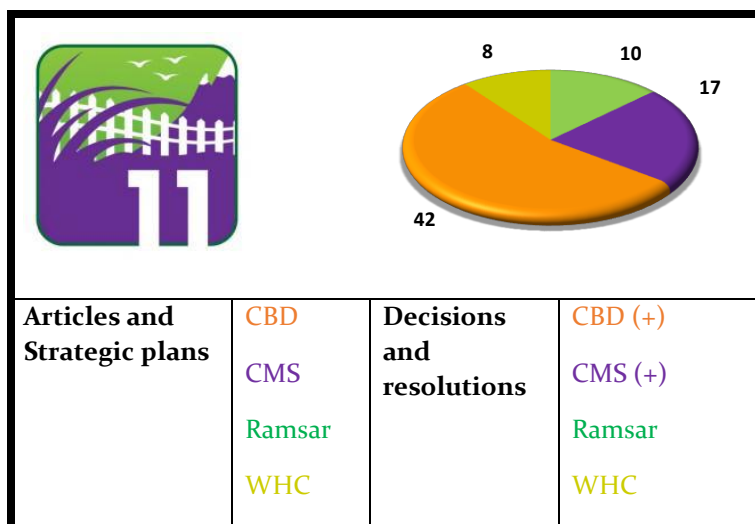
Parties are also urged to employ adaptive management measures and the *ecosystem-based approach* in addressing climate change impacts, and to monitor the effectiveness of their conservation actions in order to guide ongoing efforts.

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<sup>71</sup> Available online: [https://cites.org/sites/default/files/notif/E-Notif-2013-035\\_o.pdf](https://cites.org/sites/default/files/notif/E-Notif-2013-035_o.pdf) [Accessed: 30 September 2015].

### 3.3 Strategic Goal C: To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity

*Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 – By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.*



Among the six biodiversity-related conventions, **CBD, Ramsar Convention and WHC** have **articles** that specifically relate to Aichi Biodiversity Target 11.

**CMS** does not have a relevant **article** in its convention text, however, the **Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023** includes a target on identification and inclusion of key habitats and sites for migratory species in area-based conservation measures.

The **Ramsar Strategic Plan 2009-2015** also includes several targets of relevance for Aichi Biodiversity Target 11, including on Ramsar site management effectiveness, monitoring, and addressing negative changes in wetland ecological character.

The same conventions have developed decision text that acts as **guidance** on Aichi Biodiversity Target 11. No specific decisions and/ or resolutions guiding Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 implementation have been adopted under **CITES** and **ITPGRFA**.

**CBD** decisions call on Parties to accord priority to the management of terrestrial protected areas, including inland waters. Parties are also invited to undertake major efforts to achieve all elements of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11, in particular to improve marine protected areas in all areas within their jurisdiction, and to ensure that networks comprising both marine protected areas and terrestrial protected areas are:

- representative (by completing ecological assessments and implementing the results);
- inclusive of areas important for biodiversity;
- managed effectively and equitably;
- connected and integrated into wider land- and seascapes;
- and inclusive of diversified types of governance for protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures.

**Guidance** can also be found for **CBD** Parties on attaining those goals of the programme of work on protected areas (PoWPA) that require progress in order to reach Aichi Biodiversity Target 11. Systematic monitoring and **reporting** is called for through alignment of the protected area projects approved in the fourth, fifth and sixth replenishment periods of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), as well as those supported by bilateral and other funding sources, with the actions identified in national action plans for the programme of work. Parties are also invited to **report** on the implementation of PoWPA national action plans, including results of implementation projects funded by the GEF and other donors, through the PoWPA reporting framework, which is integrated into the fifth and sixth national reports. **Guidance** is also provided on establishing subregional and regional networks of national focal points to exchange best practices, highlights of implementing action plans (including by working with multi-sectoral committees that involve ILC), experiences in implementing projects funded by the GEF and other donors, lessons learned and tools used.

Regarding ILC, Parties are in particular invited to strengthen recognition of and support for the **tool** of *community-based approaches* to conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in situ, support the voluntary use of the *Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCA) Registry*<sup>72</sup> managed by UNEP-WCMC, and to provide support and incentives to communities in their efforts to conserve biodiversity in ICCAs.

Regarding **guidance** on sustainable tourism, complementary to the summary provided under Aichi Biodiversity Target 4, Parties and other Governments are also invited to build the capacity of national- and sub-national park and protected area agencies to engage in partnerships with the tourism industry and to contribute financially and technically to the establishment, operations and maintenance of protected areas through specified tools. Relevant **tools** are listed under Aichi Biodiversity Target 4.

Regarding **guidance** on the marine environment, Parties and other Governments are in particular encouraged to make use, as appropriate, of the scientific information used to inform descriptions of areas meeting EBSA criteria when carrying out marine spatial planning, development of representative networks of marine protected areas and application of other area-based management measures in marine and coastal areas. Furthermore, CBD decisions also provide **guidance** on addressing adverse impacts of anthropogenic underwater noise on marine and coastal biodiversity in the context of the establishment and development of management plans for marine protected areas, and the harmonisation of different processes related to marine spatial planning and area-based management.

**CMS** resolutions in particular urge Parties and invites Range States to afford high priority to the conservation of sites and habitats identified as being of importance to migratory birds. **Guidance** is also provided on how best to manage landscapes. Regarding the implementation of the CMS ecological network mandate, resolutions in particular promote transboundary area-based conservation measures; call for exploring the applicability of ecological networks to marine migratory species; and foster the implementation of site management plans. The *Global Critical Site Network Tool*<sup>73</sup> being developed and modelled on the Critical Site Network Tool for the wetland sites important to waterbirds in the African-Eurasian region, should support such work. When identifying areas of importance to migratory terrestrial, avian and aquatic species, further **guidance** is provided with Parties and other Range States encouraged to take into account and make explicit by description, schematic maps or conceptual models the relationship between those areas and other areas which may be ecologically linked to them, in physical terms or in other ecological terms. For the identification and designation of critical sites and site networks for migratory species and populations, **CMS** resolutions **guide** Parties and other Range States to make full use of existing complementary

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72 Available online: <http://www.iccaregistry.org/> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

73 Available online: <http://csntool.wingsoverwetlands.org/csn/default.html> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].



tools and mechanisms, including through further designation of Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites) for migratory waterbirds and other migratory wetland-dependent taxa.

Regarding monitoring of ecological networks, Parties are urged to make use of existing monitoring methods, such as the *Monitoring Important Bird Areas: a global framework (2006, Version 1.2)*<sup>74</sup> developed by BirdLife International to track and respond to threats and understand the status and trends of biodiversity, and the *International Waterbird Census*<sup>75</sup> coordinated by Wetlands International. CMS resolutions have not established any reporting obligations related to Aichi Biodiversity Target 11.

WHC decisions in particular guide States Parties to refine and put in place relevant legal tools or management plans concerning the conservation of properties and management of buffer zones. State Parties are also requested to pay special attention to the management of properties inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger due to armed conflict. Furthermore, WHC decisions encourage Parties to respect the rights of indigenous peoples when nominating, managing and reporting on World Heritage sites in indigenous peoples' territories and to ensure that *Environmental and Health Impact Assessments* are conducted for development projects which could affect properties. Relevant tools include *Managing effectively the world's most iconic Marine Protected Areas. A Best Practice Guide (2015)*<sup>76</sup>, which offers a step-by-step guide to pro-active, future-oriented management of marine protected areas.

A Ramsar Convention resolution urges Contracting Parties to use the *Integrated Framework for linking wetland conservation and wise use with poverty eradication (2012)*<sup>77</sup> for respective assessments, and to include such assessments in the development of site-based management planning to promote wise use and maintenance of the ecological character of wetlands. Contracting Parties and other relevant stakeholders are also urged to make good use of the Ramsar guidance on the conservation and wise use of wetlands (as compiled in the *Ramsar handbooks for the wise use of wetlands (2010, 4<sup>th</sup> edition)*<sup>78</sup>) and other available tourism, biodiversity and protected areas guidelines, many of which are relevant to addressing aspects of tourism (*see the section on Aichi Biodiversity Target 1*), recreation and wetland management. The most relevant Handbooks of the series are *Handbook 1 on the wise use of wetlands (2010, 4<sup>th</sup> edition)*<sup>79</sup>, *Handbook 2 on National Wetland Policies (2010, 4<sup>th</sup> edition)*<sup>80</sup> and *Handbook 3 on Laws and institutions (2010, 4<sup>th</sup> edition)*<sup>81</sup>, *Handbook 17 on Designating Ramsar Sites (2010, 4<sup>th</sup> edition)*<sup>82</sup> and *Handbook 18 on Frameworks for managing Ramsar Sites and other wetlands (2010, 4<sup>th</sup> edition)*<sup>83</sup>.

It should be noted, that the periodic reporting under WHC and the Ramsar Convention (both every 6 years) require information on the status and trends of biodiversity at listed sites and actions to implement the conventions at those sites.

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74 Available online:

[http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/userfiles/file/IBAs/MonitoringPDFs/IBA\\_Monitoring\\_Framework.pdf](http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/userfiles/file/IBAs/MonitoringPDFs/IBA_Monitoring_Framework.pdf) [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

75 Available online:

<http://www.wetlands.org/OurWork/Biodiversity/Monitoringwaterbirdpopulations/tabid/773/Default.aspx> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

76 Available online: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1300/> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

77 Available online: <http://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/guide/guide-poverty-e.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

78 Available online: [http://archive.ramsar.org/cda/en/ramsar-pubs-handbooks/main/ramsar/1-30-33\\_4000\\_0](http://archive.ramsar.org/cda/en/ramsar-pubs-handbooks/main/ramsar/1-30-33_4000_0) [Accessed: 09 September 2015].

79 Available online: <http://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/library/hbk4-01.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

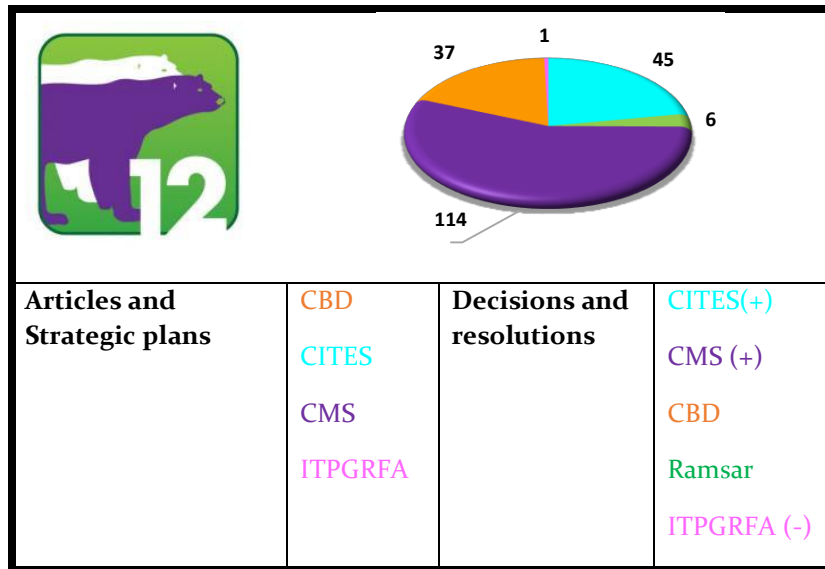
80 Available online: <http://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/library/hbk4-02.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

81 Available online: <http://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/lib/hbk4-03.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

82 Available online: <http://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/lib/hbk4-17.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

83 Available online: <http://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/lib/hbk4-18.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

*Aichi Biodiversity Target 12 – By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained.*



Among the six biodiversity-related conventions, **CBD, CITES, CMS and ITPGRFA** have key roles in contributing to (**responsibilities**) the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Target 12 according to their convention texts. **ITPGRFA’s** mandate includes the conservation and sustainable use of wild crop relatives and wild plants, and **CBD** has **articles** relating to both in-situ and ex-situ conservation of ecosystems and biological components, including threatened species. **CITES** and **CMS** have provisions for ensuring the conservation and sustainable use of listed species as part of their core mandates: **CMS** related to migratory species, and **CITES** related to international trade in wild fauna and flora. The aim of **CITES** is to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival. The Convention regulates commercial and non-commercial trade in live and dead specimens, as well as parts and derivatives, of over 35,000 species. Species listed in Appendices II and III (approximately 97% of those covered by the Convention) can be commercially traded on the general condition that such trade is legal, sustainable and traceable. Species listed in **CITES** Appendix I (approximately 3 % of those covered by the Convention) are those threatened with extinction and which are or may be affected by trade. Trade in specimens of these species is permitted only in exceptional circumstances and commercial trade in wild-taken specimens is generally prohibited. Migratory species threatened with extinction are listed on **CMS** Appendix I and Parties strive towards strictly protecting these animals, conserving or restoring the places where they live, mitigating obstacles to migration, and controlling other factors that might endanger them.

As the core mandate of **CITES** concerns threatened species, virtually all **CITES** decisions, resolutions and the objectives in the **CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2020** are relevant to Aichi Biodiversity Target 12.

**CITES** provides **guidance** on enabling policies and national legislation for **CITES** implementation, non-detriment findings<sup>84</sup>, data collection (i.e. on confiscations of specimens of **CITES** and non-**CITES** species), potential shift from in situ to ex situ production and management and trade controls for a number of listed species, including tigers, rhinoceroses, Tibetan antelopes or products from listed species, including agarwood and ivory.

84 For definition, see <http://www.cites.org/eng/prog/ndf/index.php> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

CITES decisions and resolutions in particular encourage Parties to work with key stakeholder groups to design, implement and monitor effective strategies with regard to the implementation of CITES listings, recognising that community and traditional knowledge should be considered. It is also recommended that Parties adopt mitigation strategies for human-wildlife conflict with respect to CITES-listed species (*see the section on Aichi Biodiversity Target 4*).

Regarding the illegal killing of elephants and the ivory trade, CITES has supported the development of two **tools**:

1. **Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE)**<sup>85</sup> – a monitoring system put in place across the entire range of African and Asian elephants to provide information for range States to make appropriate management and enforcement decisions, and to build institutional capacity in range States for the long-term conservation of their elephant populations.
2. **Elephant Trade Information System (ETIS)**<sup>86</sup>: ETIS is a comprehensive information system to track illegal trade in ivory and other elephant products.

Other relevant tools include the *CITES Trade Database*<sup>87</sup>, *Trade Dashboards*<sup>88</sup>, *CITES electronic permitting toolkit*<sup>89</sup>, *CITES Checklist*<sup>90</sup>, *CITES and livelihoods*<sup>91</sup>, the database *Species+*<sup>92</sup>, *national legislative guidance*<sup>93</sup>, and the *International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC) Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit*<sup>94</sup>.

The CITES convention text creates two sorts of **reporting obligations** (annual trade reports and biennial reports on implementation). Various resolutions and decisions also contain special reporting requirements for Parties. A number of these reporting requirements relate to seizures made in connection with certain species or specimens, which are suspected to have been illegally traded or possessed. Overall seizure data has been required in conjunction with Parties' biennial reports on the legislative, regulatory and administrative measures taken to enforce the Convention. In certain cases, seizure data has been included by some Parties in their annual reports and other seizure data has been provided in response to specific requests in decisions on certain species. Some seizure-related information which may assist on-the-ground law enforcement operations also should be brought immediately to the attention of authorities in countries of origin, transit and destination and the CITES Secretariat.

CMS resolutions most relevant to Aichi Biodiversity Target 12 relate to activities to improve the conservation status of listed species, including the preparation of species action plans, conservation strategies or emergency responses. Resolutions also call for national action like the development and implementation of national legislation or the strengthening of monitoring and enforcement systems, in particular in the context of tackling wildlife crime. Decisions further promote the use of **tools** such as *Movebank*<sup>95</sup> (an online database of animal tracking data), *ICARUS*<sup>96</sup> (satellite system to observe

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85 Available online: <http://www.cites.org/eng/prog/mike/index.php> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

86 Available online: <http://www.cites.org/eng/prog/etis/index.php> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

87 Available online: <http://trade.cites.org/> [Accessed: 23 September 2015].

88 Available online: <http://dashboards.cites.org/> [Accessed: 23 September 2015].

89 Available online: <http://www.cites.org/eng/prog/e/e-permitting-toolkit.php> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

90 Available online: <http://checklist.cites.org/#/en> [Accessed: 23 September 2015].

91 Available online: <https://cites.org/eng/prog/livelihoods> [Accessed: 23 September 2015].

92 Available online: <http://www.speciesplus.net/species> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

93 Available online: <https://cites.org/legislation> [Accessed: 23 September 2015].

94 Available online: [http://www.cites.org/common/resources/pub/ICWC\\_Toolkit\\_v2\\_english.pdf](http://www.cites.org/common/resources/pub/ICWC_Toolkit_v2_english.pdf) [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

95 Available online: <https://www.movebank.org/> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

96 Available online: <http://icarusinitiative.org> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

global migratory movements of small animals), and other tools to better understand the movements of **CMS**-listed species. Reference to the *IUCN Red List* is also made in resolutions. Parties are requested to identify those Appendix I and II listed species, as well as other migratory species on the IUCN Red List, that are most susceptible to climate change, and subsequently consider whether these should be listed or uplisted on the **CMS** Appendices. Lastly, **CMS** resolutions also support the enhanced implementation of agreements that have been concluded in particular on **CMS** Appendix II listed species by range states.

The database *Species+* is also designed to assist Parties with implementing **CMS**.

**CBD** decisions do not explicitly deal with known threatened species. However, a number of decisions provide **guidance** on sustainable wildlife harvest at national and other levels, and invite Parties and other Governments to develop and promote sustainable alternatives to the unsustainable use of wildlife. The **CBD** calls for regulatory systems to differentiate among subsistence uses, illegal hunting, and domestic and international trade of specimens of wild species and products, to be developed in a mutually supportive manner with **CITES** and other international obligations. The **CBD** has not developed or promoted **tools** specifically related to Aichi Biodiversity Target 11. However, in particular the *Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit (2012)*<sup>97</sup> will also be of assistance to implement **CBD** decisions and **CMS** resolutions related to wildlife crime and regulatory systems related to sustainable use of wildlife.

**Ramsar Convention** resolutions, relevant to Aichi Biodiversity Target 12, see the need to take into account the presence of rare or endemic species and habitats when developing specific ecological impact criteria to be applied in selection of energy generation sites. Contracting Parties are also urged to address current gaps in understanding of wetland wildlife health and impacts of disease on biodiversity, while highlighting the need to recognise disease as a threat to the conservation status of species. **Tools** developed by the **Ramsar Convention** related to wetland wildlife health include the *Ramsar wetland disease manual (2012)*<sup>98</sup> and the *Handbook 3 on avian Influenza and wetland (2010, 4<sup>th</sup> edition)*<sup>99</sup>.

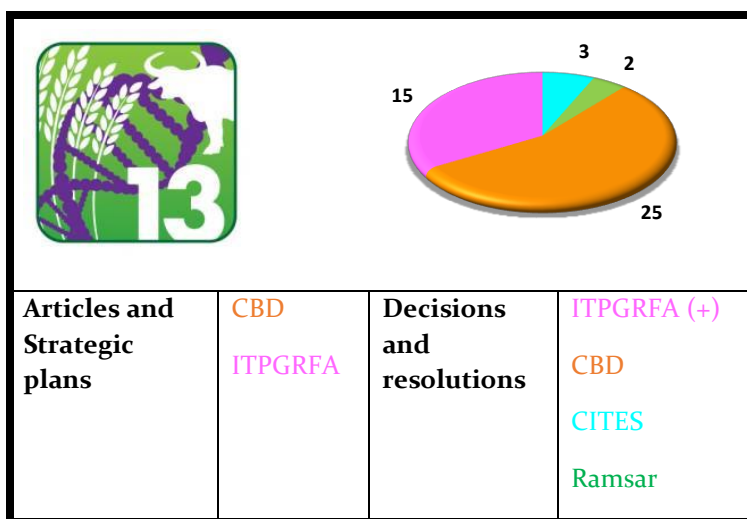
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97 Available online: [https://www.unodc.org/documents/Wildlife/Toolkit\\_e.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/Wildlife/Toolkit_e.pdf) [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

98 Available online: [http://www.wwt.org.uk/uploads/documents/Ramsar\\_Wetland\\_Disease\\_Manual.pdf](http://www.wwt.org.uk/uploads/documents/Ramsar_Wetland_Disease_Manual.pdf) [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

99 Available online: <http://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/lib/hbk4-04.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

*Aichi Biodiversity Target 13 – By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives, including other socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species, is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity.*



Among the six biodiversity-related conventions, only ITPGRFA and CBD have **articles** that outline specific responsibilities related to progress in achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 13. **Article 6** of ITPGRFA relates directly to maintaining or enhancing the genetic diversity of crop species, as well as promoting local and locally-adapted crop varieties.

ITPGRFA decisions foster the use of the **Multilateral System** in accordance with the treaty text and in particular address **reporting**, availability of information to potential users (including on conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources), and access to PGRFA by ILC and farmers to broaden the genetic base of crops in use. Contracting Parties should submit a report on the measures it has taken to implement its obligations under the treaty every five years.

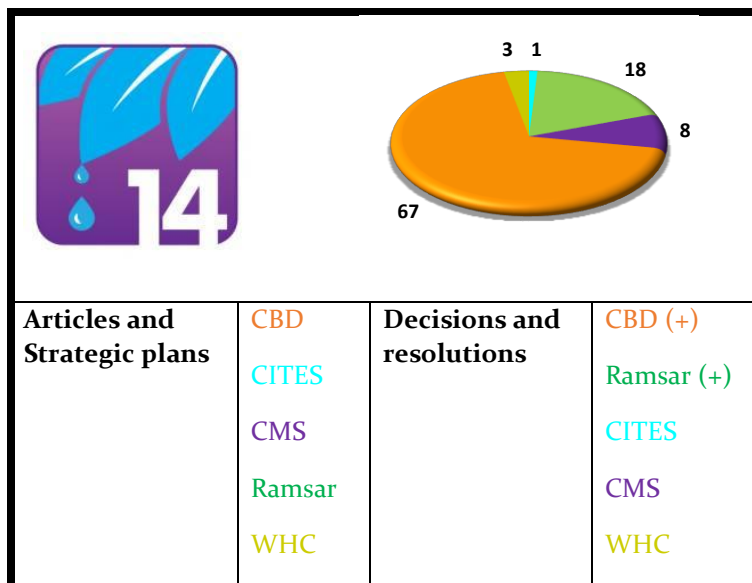
CBD decisions **guide** Parties to give due attention to the conservation of wild relatives of cultivated crops and wild edible plants in protected areas and in community conserved areas and invite Parties and other Governments to give due attention to both native species and genetic diversity in ecosystem conservation and restoration activities, while avoiding the introduction and preventing the spread of IAS. Parties are also encouraged to facilitate and support the development of national plant conservation partnerships with the participation of ILC and the widest range of stakeholders.

CITES resolutions invite Parties to take note of the potential contribution of CITES to the objectives and targets of the consolidated update of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) 2011-2020 (under the CBD). Parties are invited to promote and enhance collaboration between their GSPC focal point and their CITES authorities through a list of activities, in particular the involvement of CITES authorities in the development and implementation of the GSPC national strategies.

The **Ramsar Convention** encourages contracting Parties to maintain and protect wetland systems containing traditional and native rice species.

### 3.4 Strategic Goal D: Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services

*Aichi Biodiversity Target 14 – By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable.*



Among the six biodiversity-related conventions, **CBD**, **CMS**, the **Ramsar Convention**, **CITES** and **WHC** have **articles** that are related to progress in achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 14. For example, **CITES Article II** concerns trade in specimens of species listed in Appendices I, II, and III, which include a number of species that contribute to provisioning ecosystem services, including tree species (timber/non-timber forest products), as well as species used for medicinal purposes and bushmeat. Similarly, multiple species, fundamental to ecosystem functioning for ecosystem services, are included in **CMS Appendix 1 (Article III)**.

The **Ramsar Strategic Plan 2009-2015** also includes strategies relevant to Aichi Biodiversity Target 14 – including those that seek to address decision-making recognition of the importance of wetland ecosystem services.

**CBD** decisions provide advice to Parties and Governments to make concerted efforts to achieve the Target, and to contribute to the achievement of all the other Aichi Biodiversity Targets by ecosystem restoration through a range of activities, including:

- identifying degraded ecosystems that have the potential for ecosystem restoration;
- promoting the full and effective participation of ILC and the use of relevant traditional knowledge and practices in appropriate ecosystem restoration activities;
- identifying opportunities to link poverty eradication and ecosystem restoration;
- and considering Strategic Goal D of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 when making decisions regarding the allocation of resources to ecosystem restoration.

Further **Guidance** provided by **CBD** decisions in reference to implementing Aichi Biodiversity Target 14 includes:

- integrated planning for ecosystem conservation and restoration in ILC conserved areas, taking into consideration that priority should be given to avoiding or reducing ecosystem losses and to promote ecosystem restoration activities;
- develop and strengthen monitoring of ecosystem degradation and restoration, with a view to supporting adaptive management and **reporting** on progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;
- promote attention to the conservation and restoration of coastal wetlands and in that context welcome the work of the **Ramsar Convention** and initiatives that support the conservation and restoration of coastal wetlands;
- and integrate ecosystem restoration into planning processes.

**CBD** decisions relevant to Aichi Biodiversity Target 14 further draw attention to the linkages between biodiversity and human health, encouraging Parties to make use of respective indicators as contained in **Decision XI/3**<sup>100</sup> and potentially developed further; and highlight the importance of mainstreaming ecosystem restoration for human health and well-being into all island development and conservation plans and projects and build capacity in their application. Parties are also encouraged to support the implementation of ecosystem restoration for the mitigation and management of the impact of extreme weather events.

There are a number of **tools** relevant for Aichi Biodiversity Target 14 promoted by the **CBD**. Parties are in particular invited to take into account:

- the **ecosystem approach**, including in the context of climate change related activities and disaster risk reduction;
- **guidance to ecosystem restoration** as contained in Decision XI/16<sup>101</sup>, as well as in information documents *Available guidance and guidelines on ecosystem restoration (2012)*<sup>102</sup>, and *Available tools and technologies on ecosystem restoration (2012)*<sup>103</sup>;
- **spatial planning approaches** at the landscape and seascape level;
- **social impact assessment** when degraded ecosystems are identified for potential restoration;
- **synthesis report on technical information relating to damage to biological diversity and approaches to valuation and restoration of damage to biological diversity (2008)**.<sup>104</sup>

The **Ramsar Convention** resolutions urge Contracting Parties to develop and implement policies that promote opportunities to take advantage of the regulatory services already provided by wetlands to the global climate system, while at the same time contributing to improving human livelihoods, eradicating poverty, and meeting biodiversity goals. Progress, successes and best practices in relation to such policies should be communicated through national **reports**. Contracting Parties are also strongly urged to adopt an **ecosystem approach** to health in wetlands and their catchments (*see the section on Aichi Biodiversity Target 2*); to seek to ensure that all disease prevention and control actions are undertaken within wise use principles; and to facilitate dialogue between different health sectors,

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100 CBD COP 11 Decision XI/3, available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-11/cop-11-dec-03-en.pdf> [Accessed: 9 September 2015].

101 CBD COP 11 Decision XI/16, available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-11/cop-11-dec-16-en.pdf> [Accessed: 9 September 2015].

102 Available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/cop/cop-11/information/cop-11-inf-17-en.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

103 Available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/cop/cop-11/information/cop-11-inf-17-en.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

104 Available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/cop/cop-09/official/cop-09-20-add1-en.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

using National Ramsar Committees or other relevant mechanisms where other structures do not already exist. In that context the use of '**healthy wetland**' terminology is promoted.

Furthermore, Contracting Parties and relevant organisations are encouraged to undertake studies of the role of the conservation and/or restoration of both forested and non-forested wetlands, and to seek to ensure that groundwater recharge and flood control services provided by rice paddies are fully considered in Integrated River Basin Management processes, including through the appropriate use of the *Convention's guidance on wetlands and river basin management, as contained in Resolution X/19*.<sup>105</sup>

The **Ramsar Convention** also encourages Parties to adopt and apply, as part of their management planning for Ramsar Sites and other wetlands, a suitable **monitoring regime**, such as that outlined in *Resolution VI.1*<sup>106</sup>, and to incorporate within these monitoring regimes the Convention's **Wetland Risk Assessment Framework (1999)**<sup>107</sup>, in order to be able to **report** change or likely change in the ecological character of Ramsar Sites. Other **tools** relevant to Aichi Biodiversity Target 14 include an *Integrated Framework and guidelines for avoiding, mitigating and compensating for wetland losses (2012)*<sup>108</sup>, an *Integrated Framework for linking wetland conservation and wise use with poverty eradication (2012)*<sup>109</sup> and the Ramsar Scientific & Technical Briefing Notes n. 4 on *The Benefits of Wetlands Restoration (2012)*.<sup>110</sup>

CMS resolutions provide **guidance** on addressing habitat loss and degradation of migratory landbird species through the development of policies that maintain, manage and restore natural and semi-natural habitats within the wider environment, including working with local communities, the poverty alleviation community and the agriculture and forestry sectors in Africa (*see the section on Aichi Biodiversity Target 5*).

WHC decisions **encourage States Parties** to respect the rights of indigenous peoples when nominating, managing and reporting on World Heritage sites in indigenous peoples' territories and to ensure that *Environmental and Health Impact Assessments* are conducted for development projects which could affect properties (*as mentioned in relation to Aichi Biodiversity Target 11*) and that these specifically assess the impact on the OUV of properties.

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<sup>105</sup> The annex to Ramsar COP 10 Resolution X.19, available online:

[http://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/res/key\\_res\\_x\\_19\\_e.pdf](http://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/res/key_res_x_19_e.pdf) [Accessed: 9 September 2015].

<sup>106</sup> The annex to Ramsar COP 6 Resolution VI.1, available online:

[http://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/res/key\\_res\\_vi.1e.pdf](http://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/res/key_res_vi.1e.pdf) [Accessed: 9 September 2015].

<sup>107</sup> Available online: [http://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/library/key\\_res\\_vii.10e.pdf](http://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/library/key_res_vii.10e.pdf) [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

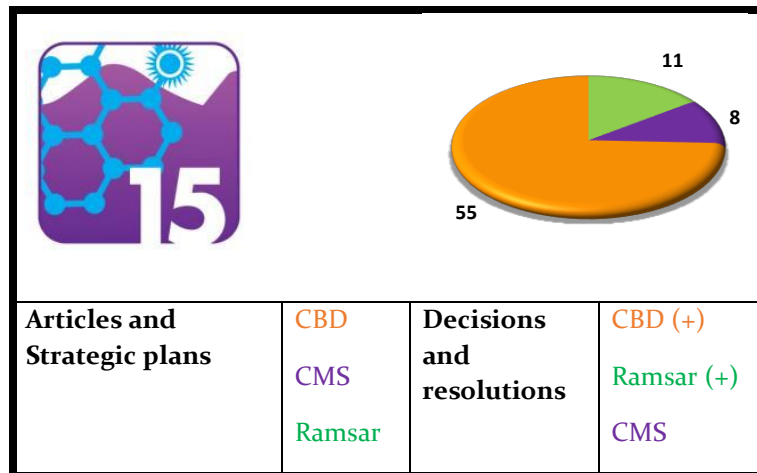
<sup>108</sup> Available online: <http://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/guide/guide-losses-e.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

<sup>109</sup> Available online: <http://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/guide/guide-poverty-e.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

<sup>110</sup> Available online: <http://archive.ramsar.org/bn/bn4.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].



*Aichi Biodiversity Target 15 – By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.*



Among the six biodiversity-related conventions, **CBD** and the **Ramsar Convention** have **articles** that are related to progress in achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 15.

**CMS** does not have relevant **articles** in its convention text, however, the **Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023** includes a target on maintenance and restoration of migratory species and their habitats which provide important ecosystem services.

**Ramsar Strategic Plan 2009-2015** also includes strategies relevant to Aichi Biodiversity Target 15. The Plan aims to increase recognition in decision-making of the significance of wetlands for ecosystem services including those related to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

**CBD** provides **guidance** on overcoming obstacles when working on biodiversity and climate change in *Proposals on Integrating Biodiversity Considerations into Climate Change-related Activities including Addressing Gaps in Knowledge and Information (2012)*.<sup>111</sup> **Guidance** is also provided to reduce the risk of displacement of deforestation and forest degradation to areas of lower carbon value and higher biodiversity value.

To build resilience of ecosystem functions and services to climate-change risks and to natural hazards, and other anthropogenic pressures, as well as for adaptation to environmental stress, **guidance** is provided by the **CBD**, to develop approaches for consideration in strategies and national development/sectoral plans. Parties are encouraged to promote and implement **ecosystem-based approaches** to climate change related activities and disaster risk reduction, in both terrestrial and marine environments, and to integrate these into their policies and programmes in the context of the revised Framework to be adopted at the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction. **Ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change** may be enhanced by strengthening inventories and monitoring of biodiversity and ecosystem services, and reviewing land-use planning.

The **guidance** on Aichi Biodiversity Target 15 provided by **Ramsar Convention** resolutions can be broken down into:

<sup>111</sup> Available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/recommendations/sbstta-16/sbstta-16-rec-08-en.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

1. climate change adaptation:
  - maintain or improve the ecological character of wetlands (including through restoration), including their ecosystem services, to enhance their resilience in the face of climate change;
  - promote the ability of wetlands to contribute to ***nature-based climate change adaptation***.
2. climate change mitigation:
  - undertake studies on the role of conservation and/or restoration of both forested and non-forested wetlands in relation to climate change mitigation;
  - cooperate, within Regional Initiatives or other regional cooperation fora, in developing and disseminating knowledge about the results of such studies;
  - make findings available to the **Ramsar Secretariat, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Secretariat**, and other relevant bodies through existing reporting processes.

Regarding **tools** relevant to Aichi Biodiversity Target 15, Contracting Parties are urged to make use of the existing ***Ramsar guidance on the wise use of wetlands*** (available in the ***Ramsar handbooks for the wise use of wetlands (2010, 4th edition)***<sup>112</sup>), much of which is applicable to many of the threats to, and impacts on, wetlands arising from climate change.

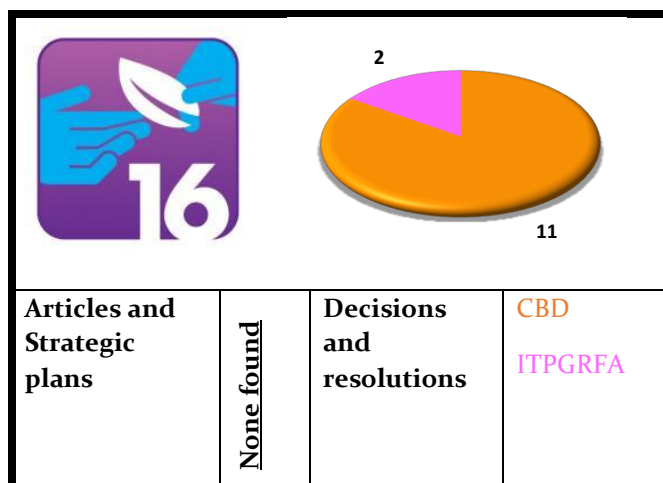
Lastly, and as already mentioned under Aichi Biodiversity Target 14, Contracting Parties are also urged to develop and implement policies that promote opportunities to take advantage of the regulatory services already provided by wetlands to the global climate system, while at the same time contributing to improving human livelihoods, eradicating poverty, and meeting biodiversity goals, and to communicate progress, successes and best practices to the Secretariat, including, inter alia, through their national **reports**.

**CMS** Parties are urged to ensure that any climate change mitigation and adaptation action, such as bio-energy production or flood protection, has appropriate ***environmental safeguards*** in place and that any project is subject to ***SEA and EIA*** requirements and takes into account CMS-listed species. Parties are also urged to employ adaptive management measures, the ***ecosystem-based approach*** in addressing climate change impacts, and to monitor the effectiveness of their conservation actions in order to guide ongoing efforts.

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<sup>112</sup> Available online: [http://archive.ramsar.org/cda/en/ramsar-pubs-handbooks/main/ramsar/1-30-33\\_4000\\_o](http://archive.ramsar.org/cda/en/ramsar-pubs-handbooks/main/ramsar/1-30-33_4000_o) [Accessed: 9 September 2015].

*Aichi Biodiversity Target 16 – By 2015, the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization is in force and operational, consistent with national legislation.*



None of the six biodiversity-related conventions outline direct responsibility relevant to Aichi Biodiversity Target 16 in their convention texts, and only **CBD** and **ITPGRFA** have adopted decisions or resolutions relevant to the Target.

**CBD** repeatedly calls for ratification, approval or acceptance of or accession to the Nagoya Protocol. Parties and other Governments are invited to undertake and provide support for capacity-building and development initiatives to support the ratification, early entry into force and implementation of the Protocol. In implementation of **Article 9** of the Nagoya Protocol, users and providers are **guided** by CBD decisions to direct benefits arising from the utilisation of genetic resources towards the conservation of biological diversity and the sustainable use of its components.

**CBD** also **guides** Parties to integrate biosafety and access and benefit-sharing into NBSAPs, national development plans and other relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral policies, plans and programmes.

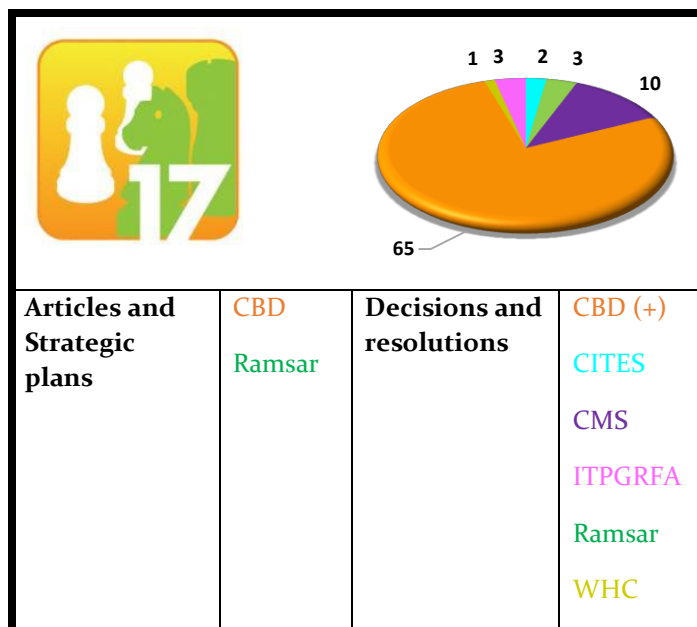
Parties are also invited to **submit** a range of information to the Executive Secretary, including information on:

- community protocols;
- model clauses;
- codes of conduct;
- guidelines;
- best practices;
- experiences;
- and practical examples of prior informed consent or approval and involvement processes for access to the knowledge, innovations and practices of ILC, and of the sharing of benefits arising from the use of this knowledge with those communities.

**ITPGRFA** appeals to Contracting Parties and other States to give priority consideration to the signature and ratification of the Nagoya Protocol. It also calls on Contracting Parties to ensure that any legislative, administrative or policy measures taken for the implementation of both **ITPGRFA** and **CBD** (or its Nagoya Protocol), are consistent and mutually supportive.

### 3.5 Strategic Goal E: Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building

Aichi Biodiversity Target 17 – By 2015 each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan.



CBD requires its Parties to develop National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (NBSAPs). The other biodiversity-related conventions do not have **articles** that are related to progress in achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 17.

**Ramsar Strategic Plan 2009-2015** generally envisions that the wise use provisions of the Convention as well as policies and implementation of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) are included in the planning activities in all Parties and in their decision-making processes. Key activities under the **CBD-Ramsar Joint Work Plan 2011-2015** include the development and implementation of NBSAPs and National Wetland Policies in a consistent and mutually supportive way.

CBD decisions on NBSAPs in particular address the importance of broad stakeholder consultations as well as the setting of national targets and indicators. Parties are invited to include all stakeholders, including ILC, women and youth. Parties are further invited to prioritise the application at national level of those indicators that are ready for use at global level, and also to use the **flexible framework and the indicative list of indicators** in their updated NBSAPs and in **reporting**. Targets and related indicators should be specific, measurable, ambitious, realistic and time-bound (SMART).

CBD decisions also recognise that NBSAPs provide a useful tool for cooperation and synergy among convention focal points of the biodiversity-related conventions and focal points for other relevant sectoral processes.

Parties are further encouraged to use the opportunity of revising NBSAPs to further mainstream biodiversity conservation with other key sectors. Decisions also **guide** Parties to foster mainstreaming of biodiversity into sustainable development at the local and subnational level.

**Guidance** on what to integrate into NBSAPs is provided, e.g.:

- biosafety and access and benefit-sharing;

- linkages between biodiversity and human health;
- poverty eradication and development concerns and priorities;
- targets of the updated Global Strategy for Plant Conservation 2011-2020;
- capacity-building needs and priorities identified through national, subnational and local *capacity self-assessments*;
- actions of the Capacity-building Strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative;
- Aichi Biodiversity Target 18;
- Gender.

Such integration should be monitored, evaluated and reported on using appropriate indicators and tools, and include this information in their national **report** (a summary of **CBD COP** guidance can be found on the CBD webpage<sup>113</sup>). Regarding the mainstreaming of gender considerations, **CBD** decisions refer to the **guidance provided in *CBD Technical Series No. 49 (2010)***<sup>114</sup> and the **training module on mainstreaming gender considerations in the development and implementation of NBSAPs (2012, Version 1)**<sup>115</sup>.

Parties are urged to review, updated or revise their NBSAPs and to adopt indicators as soon as possible (and no later than October 2015), and to submit their fifth national **reports**. Finally, Parties and other governments are also invited to undertake *voluntary peer-review* of NBSAPs and to share experiences deriving from it through the Executive Secretary and the CHM.

**CMS** resolutions in particular urge Parties to establish close collaboration at the national level between the focal point of the **CMS** and the focal points of other relevant conventions, for example by developing national biodiversity working groups to coordinate the work of focal points of relevant MEAs and other stakeholders inter alia through relevant measures in NBSAPs. Parties are also urged to include in their NBSAPs measures to minimise the impact of power lines on bird population (and called upon to **report** progress to each COP as part of their national reports), as well as measures ensuring that mitigation or adaptation activities do not result in a deterioration of the conservation status of CMS-listed species. In order to benefit fully from the GEF funding available for biodiversity, Parties are further encouraged to include priorities for the implementation of the **CMS** in their NBSAPs.

**Ramsar Convention** resolutions encourage Contracting Parties to integrate relevant issues for addressing wetland biodiversity conservation and wise use related to pesticide usage in rice paddy into a number of policy process, including their NBSAP. Parties and other governments are also urged to take part in the current review, update and revision process for NBSAPs, in order to include Ramsar objectives.

**ITPGRFA** resolutions request the NFPs of the **Treaty** to enhance their collaboration and coordination with their counterpart NFPs for the CBD in the review and updating of their NBSAPs and encourage Parties, in the revision of their NBSAPs, to integrate Treaty objectives and priorities. More generally the **Treaty** also calls on Contracting Parties to ensure that any legislative, administrative or policy measures taken for the implementation of both the **Treaty** and the **CBD** (or its Nagoya Protocol), are consistent and mutually supportive.

**CITES** resolutions encourage Parties to integrate **CITES** objectives and priorities in the revision of their NBSAPs and the African elephant range States to prioritise support to the African Elephant Fund within their national or regional funding strategies through their NBSAPs. In addition, it is

<sup>113</sup> Available online: <https://www.cbd.int/nbsap/guidance> [Accessed: 9 September 2015].

<sup>114</sup> Available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-49-en.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

<sup>115</sup> Available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/training/nbsap/bg-train-gender-en.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

recommended that Parties further strengthen the cooperation, coordination and synergies among the focal points of the biodiversity-related conventions and other partners at the national level.

WHC requests States Parties to ensure their NBSAPs fully consider the importance of natural World Heritage sites to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

Both CMS and CITES have developed **guidance** on the integration of convention specific issues into NBSAPs. CMS has produced *Guidelines on the integration on migratory species into National Biodiversity Strategies and Actions Plans (NBSAPs) (2011)*<sup>116</sup>, a *set of guidelines*<sup>117</sup> for CMS Family NFPs on how they can be involved and influence NBSAP revision. CITES has produced *Contributing to the development, review, updating and revision of NBSAPs - a draft guide for CITES parties (2011)*.<sup>118</sup>

The *NBSAP Forum web portal*<sup>119</sup> is a tool supported by the CBD that facilitates information and experience sharing among NBSAP practitioners and other interested stakeholders. Furthermore, CBD has developed a number of *NBSAP capacity building modules*<sup>120</sup> which have all been updated post-2010, including on Mainstreaming biodiversity into sectoral and cross-sectoral strategies, plans and programmes and setting national targets. Regarding indicators, the **CBD-mandated Biodiversity Indicator Partnership (BIP)** developed a number of useful tools, including the guidance document *Incorporating Indicators into NBSAPs – Guidance for Practitioners (2014)*.<sup>121</sup>

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116 Available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/nbsap/NBSAP-guidelines-CMS.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

117 Available online: [http://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/document/doc\\_27\\_guidelines\\_nbsap\\_e\\_o.pdf](http://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/document/doc_27_guidelines_nbsap_e_o.pdf) [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

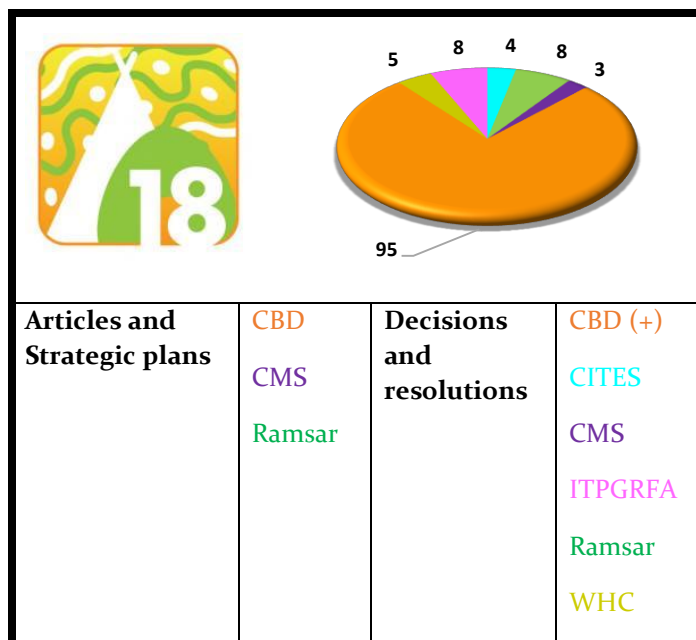
118 Available online: <http://www.cites.org/eng/notif/2011/Eo26A.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

119 Available online: <http://nbsapforum.net/> [Accessed: 9 September 2015].

120 Available online: <https://www.cbd.int/nbsap/training/> [Accessed: 9 September 2015].

121 Available online: <http://www.bipindicators.net/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=FttXotpVwfc%03d&tabid=38> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

*Aichi Biodiversity Target 18 – By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels.*



Among the six biodiversity-related conventions, **CBD** has **articles** that are related to progress in achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 18.

**CMS** does not have a relevant **article** in its convention text, however, Target 14 of **The Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023** is closely aligned with Aichi Biodiversity Target 18. **Ramsar Convention Strategic Plan 2009-2015** fosters that national policies and wetland management plans are based on the best available scientific knowledge, including technical and traditional knowledge.

**CBD** decisions relevant for progress in achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 18 provide **guidance** to Parties to:

- strengthen recognition of, and support for, community-based approaches to conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity;
- fully integrate Aichi Biodiversity Target 18 into revised and updated NBSAPs and into other relevant local and regional plans;
- ensure the full and effective participation of ILC in decision-making processes;
- support the voluntary use of the **ICCA Registry**<sup>122</sup> managed by UNEP-WCMC;
- support and comply with sui generis systems at national level, including through the development of community protocols, policy, and administrative or legislative measures, as well as tools to promote international cooperation;
- **report** on these initiatives through the national reporting process, the Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions, and through the **Traditional Knowledge Information Portal of the Convention**.<sup>123</sup>

<sup>122</sup> Available online: <http://www.iccregistry.org/> [Accessed: 9 September 2015].

<sup>123</sup> Available online: <https://www.cbd.int/tk> [Accessed: 9 September 2015].

Further calls to submit information/**report** have been issued regarding data on status and trends in traditional occupations, the implementation of the programme of work on Article 8(j) as well as regional measures that have been taken to protect traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of ILC following the adoption of the Nagoya Protocol.

**CBD** decisions further foster **reporting** on progress in future reports on the implementation of the **advice and recommendations of the in-depth dialogue on:** “Connecting traditional knowledge systems and science, such as under IPBES, including gender dimensions; and on the plan of action on customary sustainable use of biological diversity”.<sup>124</sup> Parties, **UNESCO**, **WIPO**, and others are also invited to **submit** to the Executive Secretary **relevant information**, including on best practices, and their views on the development of the **draft voluntary guidelines to promote and enhance the repatriation of traditional knowledge**<sup>125</sup> relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.

**CBD** invites Parties to include in requests to donors (including GEF) support for ILC to develop community plans and protocols to document, map, and register their community conservation areas and ICCAs, and to prepare, implement and monitor their community conservation plans, and support for countries to strengthen recognition of ILC areas.

Regarding monitoring the status of and trends in biodiversity, Parties and ILC are encouraged to consider how ILC might effectively participate in the development, collection and analysis of data, including through Community-Based Monitoring, and how a Multiple Evidence Base approach be applied for validation of such data. Furthermore, Parties are called upon to consider the provision of technical support and financial resources for collaborative programmes related to the work on indicators on traditional knowledge and customary sustainable use.

**CBD** decisions also provide **guidance** to facilitate workshops specific to ILC, including through the development of appropriate methodologies and mechanisms, including new electronic means, didactic materials, and culturally appropriate tools and instruments. Decisions further promote providing ILC with the resources needed to undertake ‘indigenous to indigenous’ and ‘community to community’ training projects.

Regarding EBSAs, **CBD** decisions promote the use of the **guidance on integration of traditional knowledge**<sup>126</sup>, with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, and Parties are invited to **report** on progress in this regard to COP 12.

**CMS** resolutions urge Parties and institutional bodies of **CMS** and invite **UNEP** and relevant stakeholders to contribute to and/or undertake improved partnership working, aiming to share knowledge and expertise and to utilise local knowledge. Regarding migratory freshwater fish Parties are called upon to engage in international cooperation at sub-regional or regional levels, noting that this cooperation should, identify viable and practical alternatives to uses of endangered migratory freshwater fish, while recognising the cultural and economic importance of these species for some communities, and ensuring that use is sustainable.

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<sup>124</sup> CBD COP 12 Decision XII/12 A. paragraph 14, available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-12/cop-12-dec-12-en.pdf> [Accessed: 9 September 2015].

<sup>125</sup> CBD COP 12 Decision XII/12 C. paragraph 2, available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-12/cop-12-dec-12-en.pdf> [Accessed: 9 September 2015].

<sup>126</sup> CBD COP 11 Decision XI/17 paragraph 24, available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-11/cop-11-dec-17-en.pdf> [Accessed: 9 September 2015].



**Ramsar Convention** resolutions urge Contracting Parties to strengthen the role of CEPA in working with local communities to improve available information and enhance community understanding of the risks to wetland ecological character and ecosystem services from the unsustainable and other inappropriate use of pesticides (*as mentioned in the section on Aichi Biodiversity Target 8*).

**ITPGRFA** resolutions invite Contracting Parties to promote access to genetic resources under the Multilateral System by ILC and farmers, and calls on Contracting Parties to protect and promote farmer's rights.

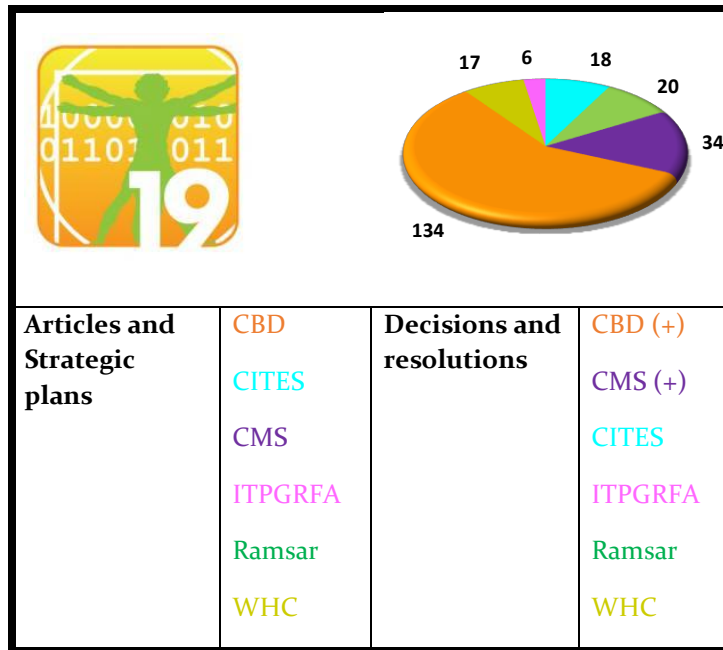
**CITES** resolutions encourage Parties to work with key stakeholder groups to design, implement and monitor effective strategies with regard to the implementation of **CITES** listings, recognising community and traditional knowledge should be considered.

**WHC** decisions recognise the valuable role played by local communities, including indigenous peoples, in the management of cultural and natural heritage properties. States Parties are encouraged to involve ILC in decision making, monitoring and evaluation of the state of conservation of the properties and their OUV, to link the direct community benefits to protection outcomes, and to respect the rights of indigenous peoples when nominating, managing and reporting on World Heritage sites in indigenous peoples' territories. Relevant tools include the World Heritage paper number 40, **Engaging Local Communities in Stewardship of World Heritage (2014)**<sup>127</sup>, which provides guidance and introduces tools for best practice in engaging ILC in World Heritage, drawing on the experience of the Community Management of Protected Areas for Conservation initiative.

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127 Available online: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/series/40/> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

*Aichi Biodiversity Target 19 – By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied.*



All the six biodiversity-related conventions have **articles** that are related to progress in achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 19.

**CMS** in its **Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023** includes Target 15 which is closely aligned with Aichi Biodiversity Target 19. The **Ramsar Strategic Plan 2009-2015** includes strategies related to Aichi Biodiversity Target 19, including the development of a global wetland information system, the promotion of science-based management of wetlands, and sharing of expertise and information. The **CITES Strategic Vision 2008-2020** includes, for example, objectives to apply the best available knowledge as the basis for non-detriment findings.

**CBD** decisions in particular highlight the importance of CHMs. Parties are strongly encouraged to accelerate the establishment and development of their national CHM and to share, inter alia:

- information on results from the monitoring of progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;
- data and information generated by research and monitoring activities in the Arctic;
- and information on good practices and the provision of expertise for technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer information and respective needs.

**UNDP** is specifically addressed to make available information regarding best practices and lessons learned on integrating biodiversity into poverty eradication and sustainable development through the CHM of the Convention.

**CBD** decisions further encourage Parties and other Governments to contribute to, update, verify and maintain relevant national data in regional and global data sets and invite relevant organisations, including funding bodies, to encourage and support long-term monitoring. Parties are also invited to make particular efforts to train, sustain, enhance and increase human resources for creating inventories, monitoring biodiversity and further taxonomic information, as well as to build and maintain publicly available information systems and facilities for biological collections. Regarding

biodiversity indicators the tool **Guidance for National Biodiversity Indicator development and Use (2011)**<sup>128</sup> has been developed by the BIP.

CBD encourages Parties to improve knowledge on those gaps highlighted in the **voluntary guidelines on marine and coastal areas**<sup>129</sup>, in particular in areas beyond national jurisdiction.

CBD decisions also provide **guidance** to improve taxonomic and related skills on human resources, in particular through the implementation of the Global Taxonomy Initiative and to report on progress through **national reporting**.

On the topic of ocean acidification, **CBD** decisions **guide** Parties, other Governments, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of **UNESCO**, and others, to further enhance their international collaboration to improve the monitoring of ocean acidification, and to consider the information contained in the updated synthesis of the impacts of the ocean acidification on marine biodiversity (**CBD Technical Series No. 75 (2014)**)<sup>130</sup>.

**Guidance** is provided to collaborate with relevant international scientific bodies including the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), to address knowledge gaps and lack of scientific information regarding the description of areas meeting the EBSA criteria; and to contribute to the scoping process for the global and regional assessments of IPBES.

**CMS** resolutions promote the use of:

- existing databases for research aimed at scientifically based conservation decisions within the **CMS** framework and other policy fora;
- enhancing and strengthening monitoring of migratory bird populations and the important sites they rely upon;
- and the development and use of new tools and techniques, including geo-locators, radio and satellite tracking, remote sensing, and genetic and connectivity analyses.

Special attention is thereby attributed to poisoning and illegal killing of birds and the EBSA process.

**CMS** resolutions also call upon Parties and non-Parties and stakeholders to strengthen national and local capacity for the implementation of the PoW on Climate Change and Migratory Species and the protection of species impacted by climate change. Parties are requested to identify and promote a standardised methodology for evaluating the susceptibility of species to climate change.

**CMS** resolutions further call on universities and other scientific institutions to publish periodic scientific reviews on a number of topics and urge Parties to support their production with a view to ensuring that Parties have access to the best available scientific information on which to base decisions.

**CMS** urge Parties and institutional bodies, and invites **UNEP** and relevant stakeholders to contribute to and/or undertake activities to, enhance scientific research and information, aiming to share research information and data and develop relevant research into common threats and issues.

**WHC** decisions encourage State Parties to support the new World Heritage Capacity Building Strategy, in particular by focusing on train-the-trainers programmes. Parties and the international community

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128 Available online: <http://www.bipindicators.net/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=brn%2FLxDzLio%3D&tabid=157> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

129 CBD COP 11 Decision XI/18 B. paragraph 5, available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-11/cop-11-dec-18-en.pdf> [Accessed: 9 September 2015].

130 Available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-75-en.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

are encouraged to support both the international capacity building programme and the regional capacity building programmes as they are developed and implemented. Further, Parties are called upon to support the activities proposed to contribute towards the improvement of the **State of Conservation Information System (SOC)**<sup>131</sup> and its access for the international community. **SOC** is a comprehensive and integrated information system on the state of conservation of World Heritage properties. This public tool is hosted on the World Heritage Centre's website and has a multi-criteria search form in order to extract specific data according to users' needs.

**CITES** resolutions encourage Parties to:

- share experiences and examples of how to make non-detriment findings and to undertaking wildlife trade policy reviews;
- to cooperate in the development and implementation of research and monitoring programmes;
- and to collaborate in developing and implementing joint research programmes at sub-regional level to support the making of non-detriment findings and public education programmes.

**CITES** has developed or published a number of **tools** relevant to Aichi Biodiversity Target 19. The **CITES Virtual College**<sup>132</sup> is a tool to enhance capacities of Parties, increase awareness of the Convention and provide learning and training materials on **CITES**<sup>133</sup>. The website **Species+**<sup>134</sup> provides a centralised portal for accessing key information on species of global concern, including **CMS** listed species. The **Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit (2012)**<sup>135</sup> is an attempt to provide a comprehensive overview for understanding the main issues related to environmental offences, and for analysing preventive and criminal justice responses to wildlife and forest offences in a given country.

**Ramsar Convention** resolutions in particular invite Contracting Parties and organisation to share information, guidance and case studies on different themes, including energy planning and development, SEAs, sustainable tourism and recreation, mitigation and compensation measures, and managing rice paddy biodiversity. Contracting Parties are encouraged to make use of the **STRP Newsletter**<sup>136</sup> and the **Scientific and Technical Briefing Notes series**<sup>137</sup> to share good practices in wise use of wetlands. Information exchange with counterparts in the **UNFCCC** and improving the knowledge base regarding the role of wetlands in climate change mitigation is also fostered, as well as subsequently making findings publicly available, including through existing **reporting processes**.

**Ramsar Convention** resolutions also provide a list to assist Contracting Parties in deciding priorities for their financial and other material support towards the scientific and technical implementation of the **Ramsar Convention**. Contracting Parties are also invited to provide relevant expertise to **IPBES** and **IPCC** to help in developing information on wetlands.

**ITPGRFA** resolutions appeals to all Contracting Parties and their national plant genetic resources systems and others to ensure that information be made publicly and easily available, so that they may be accessed for the purpose of utilisation and conservation for research, breeding and training for food and agriculture using the **FAO/IPGRI Multicrop Passport Descriptor List (2001)**.<sup>138</sup> Contracting

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131 Available online: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/soc> [Accessed: 9 September 2015].

132 Available online: <https://cites.unia.es/> [Accessed: 9 September 2015].

133 Available online: <https://cites.unia.es/> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

134 Available online: <http://www.speciesplus.net/species> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

135 Available online: [https://cites.org/common/resources/pub/ICWC\\_Toolkit\\_v2\\_english.pdf](https://cites.org/common/resources/pub/ICWC_Toolkit_v2_english.pdf) [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

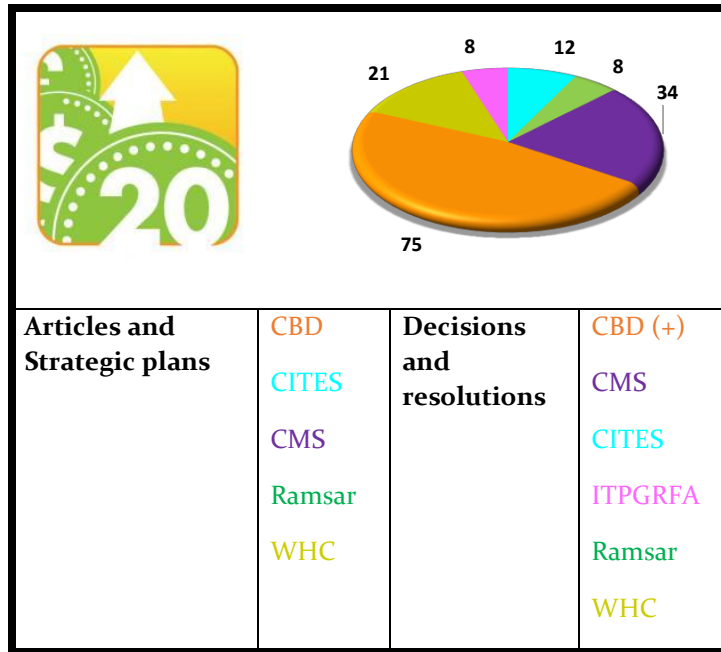
136 Available online: <http://strp.ramsar.org/news-events/strp-newsletter> [Accessed: 9 September 2015].

137 Available online: <http://strp.ramsar.org/strp-publications/ramsar-briefing-notes> [Accessed: 9 September 2015].

138 Available online: [http://www.biodiversityinternational.org/fileadmin/migrated/uploads/tx\\_news/FAO\\_IPGRI\\_Multi-Crop\\_Passport\\_Descriptors\\_MCPD\\_124\\_01.pdf](http://www.biodiversityinternational.org/fileadmin/migrated/uploads/tx_news/FAO_IPGRI_Multi-Crop_Passport_Descriptors_MCPD_124_01.pdf) [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

Parties are further invited to convene regional workshops and other consultations including with farmers' organisations, for the exchange of knowledge, views and experiences to promote the realisation of Farmers' Rights and present results at the next session of the Governing Body.

*Aichi Biodiversity Target 20 – By 2020, at the latest, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 from all sources, and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization, should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent to resource needs assessments to be developed and reported by Parties.*



Among the six biodiversity-related conventions, **CBD** and **WHC** have **articles** that are related to progress in achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 20.

**CMS**, **CITES** and **Ramsar Convention** do not have a relevant **article** in their convention text, however, all three conventions include related goals or targets in their Strategic Plans. The **Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023** includes a target to substantially increase resources from all sources to effectively implement the Plan. The **Ramsar Strategic Plan 2009-2015** includes a strategy on international assistance and Convention financial capacity. The **CITES Strategic Vision 2008-2020** includes a number of objectives of relevance to Aichi Biodiversity Target 20 under goal 2 on securing the necessary financial resources and means for the operation and implementation of the conventions, including on enhancing cooperation with international financial mechanisms, without diminishing funding for currently prioritised activities.

All of the six biodiversity-related conventions have adopted decisions or resolutions that are of relevance for Aichi Biodiversity Target 20.

**CBD** has agreed on a set of preliminary targets for resource mobilisation<sup>139</sup>, related to: doubling total biodiversity-related international financial resource flows to developing countries/economies in transition; the inclusions of biodiversity in national priorities or development plans; reporting on domestic biodiversity expenditures, as well as funding needs, gaps and priorities; the preparation of national financial plans – all by 2015; and mobilisation of domestic financial resources by 2020. Further **guidance** is directed towards creating an enabling environment to mobilise private and public-sector

<sup>139</sup> CBD COP 12 Decision. XII/3 C. paragraph 28, available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-12/cop-12-dec-03-en.pdf> [Accessed: 9 September 2015].

investments and to increase the effectiveness and sustainability of international and national financial flows.

Parties and other Governments are urged to develop their national resource mobilisation strategies or finance plans within the framework of revising NBSAPs, using the targets for resource mobilisation as a flexible framework, along with a ***list of concrete and effective actions contained in Decision XII/3***.<sup>140</sup> Parties should **report** on their contribution to the collective efforts to reach the global targets for resource mobilisation in their sixth national reports as well as subsequent national reports. Developed country Parties and donors are invited to provide funding to developing countries and Parties with economies in transition for the implementation of NBSAPs and for capacity building needs and priorities.

Furthermore, decisions urge Parties and other Governments to further develop and use various sources of funding, including market and non-market based instruments, REDD+ and alternative policy approaches for results-based finance. When selecting, designing and implementing biodiversity financing mechanisms, and when developing instrument-specific safeguards for them, Parties are urged to take the ***voluntary guidelines on safeguards in biodiversity financing mechanisms*** into account. Parties are further urged to consider undertaking a review and assessment of existing relevant legislation and policies governing biodiversity financing mechanisms and to **make information on this work available** to the Executive Secretary to enable a compilation of a synthesis for SBI-1.

Regarding resource effectiveness and sustainability of financial flow, **CBD** decisions invite Parties to support developing countries to enhance institutional, national, administrative and managerial capacities and to strengthen cooperation and synergy among convention focal points and focal points for other relevant sectoral processes.

Regarding the GEF, **CBD** decisions invite developed country Parties and others to increase their financial contributions through the financial mechanism during the sixth GEF replenishment period (GEF-6), and promote co-financing and encourage Parties to develop and submit multi-focal area projects for GEF funding as well as projects to support ILC.

Further guidance relevant to Aichi Biodiversity Target 20 relates inter alia to the implementation of:

- the Nagoya Protocol;
- initiatives by networks of local and subnational governments;
- EBSAs;
- taxonomic projects;
- the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC);
- sustainable tourism;
- synergies in policy development and the fulfilment of obligations under the biodiversity-related conventions and the Rio conventions;
- forest and island biodiversity;
- gender mainstreaming and;
- synthetic biology.

Regarding relevant **tools** for achieving progress in Aichi Biodiversity Target 20, **CBD** decisions highlight the **work of the Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN)**<sup>141</sup> of UNDP. Parties are also encouraged to consider the findings and the implementation of the **recommendations of the second report of the**

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<sup>140</sup> Annex IV to CBD COP 12 Decision XII/3, available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-12/cop-12-dec-03-en.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

<sup>141</sup> Available online: <http://www.biodiversityfinance.net/> [Accessed: 9 September 2015].

*High-level Panel on the Global Assessment of Resources (2014)*<sup>142</sup> for implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. Additional relevant tools developed by the **CBD** include, in particular, the *CBD LifeWeb Initiative*<sup>143</sup> as a platform to communicate funding needs for the implementation of national action plans for the programme of work. **CBD** decisions also take note of the report *Conceptual and Methodological Framework for Evaluating the Contribution of Collective Action to Biodiversity Conservation (2014)*<sup>144</sup>, and invites the evaluation of the contribution of collective action to biodiversity conservation and resource mobilisation, including by establishing pilot projects.

**Ramsar Convention** resolutions in particular give **guidance** on providing support to the scientific and technical implementation of the **Ramsar Convention**; urge Contracting Parties to consider making additional voluntary contributions to support the Convention's programme of scientific and technical work, particularly for tasks indicated as top priorities; and promote the development of partnerships with the private sector as a possible income generation source. In that context, Contracting Parties are also urged to continue to support the development and implementation of the Convention's partnership programme, including through providing the Secretariat with information and contacts for potential business and other partnerships and prospective donor contacts.

**CMS** decisions in particular urge Parties, and invite **UNEP** and other relevant international organisations, to financially support the implementation of different task forces, e.g. the Energy Task Force or the Task Force to Address Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean, and to support **CMS** resolutions on specific topics/ action plans, e.g. the prevention of the poisoning of birds. The financial support is thereby supposed to include funding for coordination and the provision of financial assistance to developing countries for relevant capacity building.

In addition, Parties are also encouraged to provide financial resources and in-kind support to underpin and strengthen existing ecological network initiatives within the **CMS** Family of instruments; to make available funds to support the four functions of IPBES; and urged to cooperate with developing states that are members of the Convention and support them with adequate resources.

Regarding resource efficiency and appropriateness **CMS** resolutions also urge Parties and invite **UNEP** to contribute to and/or undertake activities to identify opportunities for cooperation and coordination at the local and regional level, including through a global gap analysis.

**WHC** decisions in particular highlight the urgent need to ensure the sustainability of the World Heritage Fund and call upon all States Parties to consider allocating unrestricted supplementary voluntary contributions to it. Decisions also call on Parties to intensify contributions to the African World Heritage Fund. States Parties are further encouraged to source assistance and support beyond what is available under the **UNESCO** World Heritage Fund, noting that tools, methodology and guidance are available both internationally and nationally from the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre, and additional support should be sought from other donors, NGOs and international organisations. States Parties are further encouraged to support the new World Heritage Capacity Building Strategy and consider the allocation of additional financial resources to contribute to its implementation. Lastly, it is recommended that States Parties that do not possess the necessary financial resources seek assistance from the World Heritage Centre to mobilise funding through extra budgetary sources and facilitate bilateral assistance.

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142 Available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/cop/cop-12/information/cop-12-inf-04-en.pdf> [Accessed: 9 September 2015].

143 Available online: <https://lifeweb.cbd.int/> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

144 Available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/cop/cop-12/information/cop-12-inf-07-en.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].



**CITES** resolutions in particular invite Parties to initiate or strengthen collaborative partnerships among local, regional, national and international development and conservation agencies to enhance financial support for wildlife conservation and rural communities. Parties are also encouraged to support and provide financial and in-kind resources for capacity-building activities, particularly those in support of Goals 1 and 3 of the **CITES Strategic Vision**, as well as for improvement of capacity to make non-detriment findings. Parties are further urged to consider the identified needs of developing countries when implementing capacity-building, fund-raising and budget-allocation programmes. With regard to specific species, **CITES** resolutions call for financial support to the African Elephant Fund and also give guidance on how to contribute financially towards the in situ conservation of particular species.

**ITPGRFA** resolutions in particular urge Contracting Parties and other governments to give highest priority to support the Benefit-sharing Fund. Parties are also encouraged, in the revision of their NBSAPs, to integrate Treaty objectives and priorities in order to identify opportunities for Treaty-relevant projects that may be eligible for support by GEF, and further supported by other mechanisms of the Funding Strategy such as the Benefit-sharing Fund of the Treaty. Further, Contracting Parties and stakeholder groups that have undertaken initiatives in the context of the Funding Strategy, in particular the establishment of a Platform for the Co-development and Transfer of Technology, and the Public-Private Partnership for Pre-Breeding, are requested to **report** to the next Session of the Governing Body. Parties are also encouraged to support these platforms/partnerships to ensure they are sustainable over the long term.

Regarding **tools**, section 5 of the **CITES** publication *Contributing to the development, review, updating and revision of NBSAPs (2011)*<sup>145</sup> is on 'Operationally integrating CITES Targets into the NBSAP Process and Potential Access to GEF Funds'. This tool could also be of use to implement the GEF-related ITPGRFA resolution.

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<sup>145</sup> Available online: <https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/notif/2011/Eo26A.pdf> [Accessed: 13 August 2015].

## 4 Analysis – Part B: Potential opportunities for cooperation and collaboration among biodiversity-related conventions, including possible opportunities for consolidated guidance

### 4.1 NBSAPs, the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets

All of the conventions promote cooperation amongst each other in the context of NBSAP revision and implementation, and point to (convention-) specific issues that should be integrated in NBSAPs, e.g. biodiversity mainstreaming into sectoral and cross-sectoral plans (**Ramsar Convention and CBD**) and poverty eradication and development concerns and priorities (**CBD**). Regarding the latter, **CBD** invites **UNDP** to make available information on integrating biodiversity into poverty eradication and sustainable development. Furthermore, all of the six conventions except **WHC** explicitly address enhanced cooperation among NFPs and **CMS and CITES** have already developed guidance documents to assist their Parties in this process.

### 4.2 Reporting, Monitoring and Indicators

**CBD and CMS** decisions promote monitoring of biodiversity and ecosystem services in the context of ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change. **CBD, CMS, Ramsar Convention and CITES** also have a number of decisions/resolutions on strengthening monitoring systems and programmes and point to a number of tools in that regard. These mainly address specific issues, e.g.: **CITES**-listed species (**CITES**); shared wetland-dependent species (**Ramsar Convention**); IAS, protected areas and ocean acidification (**CBD**) and migratory birds (**CMS**). Another topic of complementarity is the involvement of **ILC** in monitoring and evaluation of biodiversity (**CBD and WHC**).

### 4.3 IPBES and strengthening the Science-Policy Interface

Both **CBD** and the **Ramsar Convention** have provided guidance on collaboration with **IPBES**. This could be used when attempting to strengthen the relationship between **IPBES** and the biodiversity-related conventions. **CMS** also encourages Parties to make available funds to support the four functions of **IPBES**.

### 4.4 Information management and awareness raising

All of the conventions address making biodiversity information easily accessible. **CBD, CMS, WHC, ITPGRFA and Ramsar Convention** have decisions/resolutions that promote cooperating on enhancing existing databases and strengthening information systems. Regarding awareness raising, areas for considering coherent outreach include: engagement with agriculture, energy and forestry sectors (**CBD, CMS, Ramsar Convention and WHC**), sustainable use of wildlife and combatting wildlife crime (**CBD, CITES and CMS**), sustainable tourism (**CBD and Ramsar Convention**), community-based approaches to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use (**CBD, CITES, Ramsar Convention and CMS**), control and risk analysis of IAS (**CBD, CMS, Ramsar Convention**), special biodiversity events (i.e. World Days) (**CBD, CMS and Ramsar Convention**).

### 4.5 Capacity building

All of the conventions provide guidance on capacity building across the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Immediate opportunities for collaboration – due to the fact that capacity building activities are explicitly promoted – include enabling environments for business engagement (**CBD, Ramsar Convention and CITES**), sustainable tourism (**CBD and Ramsar**) and supporting the operationalisation of the Nagoya Protocol (**CBD and ITPGRFA**). The common calls between the

conventions for strengthening information systems and reporting, which will require capacity building, also indicates the potential for synergistic activities, even if conventions do not make explicit calls for this. **All of the conventions** promote the sharing of experiences on different topics. Topics focused on by more than one convention include the creation of incentives for biodiversity conservation as well as the elimination of harmful policies (**CBD, Ramsar Convention and CMS**).

#### 4.6 Funding and resource efficiency

A number of conventions provide guidance for countries on mobilising support through public-private partnerships (**CBD, Ramsar Convention and ITPGFRA**), enhancing efficiencies through strengthened coordination at local, national and regional levels (**CBD and CMS**), and developing joint funding proposals on NBSAP implementation (**CBD and ITPGRFA**) and wildlife conservation through support of ILC (**CBD and CITES**). Common future guidance on these topics could be provided by the conventions mentioned.

#### 4.7 Institutional collaboration

The matrix provides less information relevant to this thematic area as this study has focused on the identification of guidance for countries rather than convention secretariats and UN bodies.

## 5 Concluding remarks

### 5.1 General observations:

1. The information contained in the matrix indicates that additional joint activities could be explored in all but one of the seven thematic areas considered.
2. Considerably more guidance is provided to countries post-2010 in relation to some of the thematic areas (e.g. Funding and resource efficiency) than others (e.g. IPBES and strengthening the science-policy interface).
3. The results of this study have some similarities with earlier mapping efforts which showed that the biodiversity-related conventions have responsibilities related to many of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.
4. The level of detail in the guidance provided by conventions on how to implement, and report on, actions relevant to achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (and elements of them) at national level varies considerably.
5. There are some apparent gaps in the guidance provided by conventions on some components of a number of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, for example:
  - i) Target 7: There is limited guidance for countries on sustainable management of aquaculture. The cultivation of fish, crustaceans, molluscs and aquatic plants in inland water or the marine environment is only addressed by Ramsar Convention resolutions, which provide relevant guidance specifically relating to farming practices in rice paddies. A relevant Ramsar Convention tool is the *Ramsar handbooks for the wise use of wetlands (2010, 4th edition)*<sup>146</sup>, which organises guidance material from relevant decisions according to subject themes, including fisheries and the issue of aquaculture. ITPGRFA, responsible for the sustainable use of PGRFA, has not yet adopted guidance or tools relevant to this component of the target post-2010.
  - ii) Target 9: Guidance is predominantly provided by the CBD and CMS, the bulk of which relates to addressing the control or eradication of IAS and the identification of pathways. This guidance does not substantially cover measures to address IAS, but more generally recognises that the threats from IAS need to be addressed and mitigated. CBD does provide guidance on strategies and tools to strengthen, and evaluate the existing capacity of border control authorities to identify invasive alien species. However, very little guidance is provided across the conventions on how to identify invasive alien species, although there is a focus on making sure that information on IAS species is made available.
6. Given the broad nature of some of the targets, it has been difficult to create concrete criteria for what is 'guidance' and for which target such guidance should relate to. This is the source of the inherent subjectivity in this review and other similar studies/analyses.

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<sup>146</sup> Available online: [http://archive.ramsar.org/cda/en/ramsar-pubs-handbooks/main/ramsar/1-30-33\\_4000\\_0](http://archive.ramsar.org/cda/en/ramsar-pubs-handbooks/main/ramsar/1-30-33_4000_0) [Accessed: 9 September 2015].

## 5.2 Opportunities for future studies (see annex 5):

7. Explore alternative presentation options (e.g. interactive, more easily searchable) of the matrix (currently a 335 page table) to aid navigation and identify an appropriate platform to host the matrix (e.g. UNEP Live<sup>147</sup> or InforMEA<sup>148</sup>), enabling it to be regularly updated, i.e. 'living'.
8. Make it clearer which guidance text relates to the different 'target elements'/components used in GBO-4, considering whether detailed guidance is provided for each component of each target. This would align with requests that have been received by the CBD Secretariat to facilitate national reporting against components of each target.
9. In future reviews, turn the exclusion criteria used by this review into inclusion criteria, e.g. review more annexes to decisions (current review only considered annexes when these were necessary to comprehend the context of the strategic plan/decision/resolution/joint work plan).
10. Expand to include the programmes of work and/or strategies of UN bodies (e.g. UNEP Medium-Term Strategy), in particular including those that participated in the original EMG work, in order to support such bodies to carry out in a systematic and coherent manner activities relevant to more than one MEA.
11. Consider whether and how to update <http://ieg.informea.org/goals/> (in part so that the potential utility of pre-2010 guidance to implementation and reporting related to progress in achieving specific Aichi Biodiversity Targets is not ignored), and explore how the framework of Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the information contained in the matrix could be used to inform how information is presented on UNEP Live.
12. Explore the potential for making the matrix and/or 'checklist' more practical for use at the national level in identifying opportunities for coherent implementation of MEAs.
13. Expand to include other MEAs (e.g. IPPC, Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and regional agreements).
14. Consider how the framework of Aichi Biodiversity Targets might inform reporting frameworks addressing CBD COP 12 Decision XII/29<sup>149</sup> which requested the Executive Secretary to 'explore the potential for a more coherent reporting framework with other biodiversity-related conventions to improve access to relevant data for the implementation of the Convention and to reduce the reporting burden on Parties'.
15. Consider the relevance of the matrix to efforts to 'recast and strengthen' the Aichi Biodiversity Targets Task Force<sup>150</sup> and to develop the InforMEA decision search function.

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<sup>147</sup> UNEP Live is an online knowledge management platform for searching national, regional and global data and knowledge to support assessments of the state and trends of the environment including of ecosystems and biodiversity. It provides access to reports, data, maps (including near real-time data), and links to UNEP knowledge assets such as the PIMS database, InforMEA etc. It has a thriving Community of Practice portal that enables experts to share ideas, data and knowledge, and also enables users to create maps by dragging and dropping geo-referenced data onto base maps.

<sup>148</sup> InforMEA is the first project established by the Multilateral Environmental Agreement Information and Knowledge Management Initiative (co-chaired by UNEP and CITES). It currently includes information on 43 global and regional legally-binding instruments on environment, including their decisions and resolutions, news, events, membership, national focal points, national reports, implementation plans and other information, under the custodianship of 18 MEA secretariats hosted by four UN organisations and IUCN.

<sup>149</sup> CBD COP 12 Decision XII/29 paragraph 6, available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-12/cop-12-dec-29-en.pdf> [Accessed: 9 September 2015].

<sup>150</sup> UNEP/CBD/COP/12/12 'Progress report on communication, education and public awareness and United Nations Decade on Biodiversity: Note by the Executive Secretary', 18 August 2014, paragraph 14.

## 6 Supplementary information

### 6.1 Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Matrix
- Appendix 2 – Checklist
- Appendix 3 – CITES Secretariat comments

### 6.2 Annexes

- Annex 1 – ‘Background Information: Mapping MEAs to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets – interim summary of results’
- Annex 2 – Analysis of how CITES Strategic Vision objectives contribute to achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets established in the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020<sup>151</sup>
- Annex 3 – How implementation of Ramsar Strategic Plan 2009-2015 Strategies contributes to the “Aichi Biodiversity Targets”<sup>152</sup>
- Annex 4 – Correspondence between the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023 and Aichi Targets<sup>153</sup>
- Annex 5 – Discussion paper on possible next steps

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151 Annex 3 to CITES notification to the Parties No. 2015/032 (2015), available online:

<https://cites.org/sites/default/files/notif/E-Notif-2015-032-A3.pdf> [Accessed: 01 October 2015].

152 Appendix to the Ramsar Strategic Plan 2009-2015, adjusted for the 2013-2015 triennium by Resolution XI.3 (2012), available online: <http://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/strat-plan-2009-e-adj.pdf> [Accessed: 9 September 2015].

153 Annex A. to CMS Resolution 11.2, available online: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-12/cop-12-dec-29-en.pdf> [Accessed: 9 September 2015].